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Richland Rod & Gun Club
P.O. Box 337
Richland, WA 99352-0337

- The new regulation package creates a statewide general cougar hunting season from August 1 through March 15, and eliminates the cougar permit requirement.
- Under the new regulation package, hunters from all user groups will be able to apply for all permits for mountain goats.
- Permits just for archery or muzzle loader hunters will no longer be issued. The proposal's intent is to give all hunters, regardless of the weapon they use, an equal opportunity to be drawn for a permit.
- Because of an outbreak of a deadly bacteria that has caused the death this year of at least 100 bighorn sheep in southeast Washington, the commission decided not to issue any bighorn permits next year in the Mountainview and Wenaha Wilderness hunting areas.
- In other actions, the commission: Adopted formal policy guidelines for the department's Private Lands Wildlife Management Area Program. The program is designed to encourage private landowners to protect and maintain fish and wildlife habitat while allowing the public access for hunting, fishing and other recreational opportunities.

NEW MEMBER: Welcome to new member Charles McGee of Richland.

HAPPY



NEW YEAR



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

P. O. BOX 337
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON
99352

I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY DEFEND FROM WASTE THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY; ITS AIR, SOILS AND MINERALS; ITS FORESTS, WATERS, AND WILDLIFE. I WILL HELP EDUCATE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO BE RESPONSIBLE CARETAKERS OF THE RESOURCES OF AMERICA.

January, 1997
Volume 52, No.1

1996 Officers

Harold Heacock, Pres. (586-4960)
Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Paul Logman, V Pres. (946-5596)
Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - January 7, 1997, 7:00 PM - RR&GC HUNTER SAFETY FACILITY, BIG PASCO, E AINSWORTH AVE. MIDDLE OF WAREHOUSE 5, PASCO
BOARD MEETING - January 14, 1997, 7:00 PM - IT CORP., 1045 JADWIN, RICHLAND
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - January 23, 1997, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009
TRI-CITIES SPORTSMEN SHOW (LUNKER LAKE), January 17, 18, & 19, 1997, TRAC Facility, Pasco
FRIENDS OF NRA BANQUET & AUCTION - March 14, 1997, CAVANAUGHS AT COLUMBIA CENTER
RR&GC BIG GAME DINNER - March 22, 1997, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL, RICHLAND

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

- The meeting will be held at the RR&GC Hunter Education Facility at Big Pasco. The facility is in the middle of Warehouse 5 on E Ainsworth Ave. E Ainsworth Ave can be accessed from 10th Ave. The Cable Bridge is on 10th Ave. and E Ainsworth is the second road to the right after you enter Pasco from the Cable Bridge. Continue on E Ainsworth until you are at the far end of Big Pasco. Warehouse 5 is on the left. The Facility is identified with a big sign on the front of the warehouse. Howard Gardner will chair the meeting, show off the facility and its equipment and describe the training the youth receive. You will get a chance to shoot on the air rifle, .38 special pistol plastic bullet, and archery ranges. If you possess a .38 special or .357 revolver, bring it along and use it to shoot .38 special plastic bullets on the target range. The club will supply the plastic bullets. Make sure that you do not bring any live ammo with you. The targets will be scored and awards will be awarded for the first three places in the air rifle, pistol and archery categories.
- Bring a small package containing some item(s) of hunting or fishing equipment that you no longer need, the packages will be put in a pile and swapped with others at the meeting. Here's your chance to get rid of something you are not using and in turn receive something that might surprise you. Make sure and come it should be a fun evening
- Howard Gardner will have some antelope leather shooting gloves available for sale at the meeting for \$20.00. The gloves were made from hides of antelope that Howard bagged this fall. Antelope leather is lightweight and very tough. Sizes of the gloves are medium or large.
- The Club election for officers and board of trustees for 1997 was not held at the December General Meeting but will be held at the January meeting. The candidates are listed on the next page.

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

- Club Vice-President Paul Logman brought the meeting to order and announced that the scheduled speaker was not able to attend because of a death in the family. Daryl Brown substituted for the speaker and did an excellent job. He showed a video produced by the "Single Action Shooting Society" showing an 'End of Trail Shoot'. The participants shot at various

moving and stationary targets with 'pre-turn of the century' single action revolvers, shotguns, Winchester or Henry rifles or replicas. They were decked out in period clothing similar to that worn by 'Rendezvous' participants'. Daryl and Paul Logman also exhibited firearms that they use in local 'end of trail shoots'. It was a very interesting presentation and showed us a different, 'fun' type of shooting sport that many of us were not familiar with.

- Door prize winners were John Cummings who went home with a portable fold up camping table and Dick Biggerstaff who won a Suv's Grocery Carrier that can be used in a car or truck.

CLUB ELECTION FOR OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS: The election for Club officers and board of trustee members will be held at the January General Meeting. The candidates are:

President:	Paul Logman	<u>Board Members:</u>	Jim Ball, Don Board, Clare Cranston, John Cummings, Lyle Gilk,
V. President:	Dennis Spore		John Hall, David Koontz, Dale Landon, Larry Martin, Dave Myers,
Secretary:	Eddie Manthos		Jack Pickard, Rocky Ross, John Silko, Mike Thompson, & Ev Weakley.
Treasurer:	Mike Estes		

Past President: Harold Heacock. **Volunteers:** Howard Gardner and Jerry Zeitler.
Nominations for officers or board members will also be accepted from the floor.

TRI-CITIES SPORTSMEN SHOW: The RRGc will man the Lunker Lake Fishing Pond and the air rifle shooting range for the 4th consecutive year at the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show on Friday, Saturday and Sunday January 17, 18 and 19 at the TRAC facility outside Pasco. Many volunteers will be needed to man the pond and range in 4 and 5 hour shifts. The phone calling tree will be activated immediately, when the Board members receive this Bulletin. You can expect a call asking you to volunteer. The Fishing Pond is a lot of fun, it introduces kids (and some parents) to fishing and gives us an opportunity to increase awareness of the Richland Rod and Gun Club. Last year the air rifle shooting range was extremely busy and understaffed, more workers will be scheduled this year. This year the fishing tank will be set up in the arena to the right of the exhibition hall as you enter the front of the building. A group of about 6 people will be needed Thursday morning January 16 to set up the fishing pond. During the Show about 16 volunteers will be needed to man Lunker Lake and 3 additional volunteers for the air rifle shooting range. Shift times are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Thursday the 16th for set up of the fishing pond. Shift times for Friday the 17th are 1-5 PM and 5-9 PM. Saturday the 18th shifts will be from 10 AM-3 PM and 3-8 PM. Sunday the 19th shifts will be from 10-2PM and 2-6 PM, the last shift will stay over to help disassemble the pond. Workers should arrive 15 minutes before the start of the shift to receive their entrance pass. You should come equipped with pliers (to remove the hook from the fish), a hand towel and safety glasses. You can sign up at the January meeting, or call Jack Pickard at 582-5397 to get on the list early and reserve your favorite shift. Profits from Lunker Lake will be used to fund camp fees for the youth that will attend the 1997 Conservation Camp at Orcas Island. Be sure to volunteer, you will get a big kick helping kids that have never fished before catch their first fish, see you there!

47TH ANNUAL BIG GAME (WILD GAME) DINNER: -Jerry Zeitler- The 47th Annual Wild Game Dinner will be held at the Richland Knights of Columbus Hall on Saturday March 22. Ticket cost is the same as last years, \$15.00 per person. Tickets will not be sold at the door on the night of the dinner. The social hour will start at 6:00 PM with dinner scheduled at 7:00 PM. The program speaker will be Dr. Bern Shanks, Director of The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

- Tickets will go sale at the January 7 General Meeting. You can also mail payment to the **RR&GC, P.O. Box 337, Richland WA 99352.** Mail orders will be honored, subject to the availability of unsold tickets.

- Fish, fowl and big game meat donations are still needed. Dave Myers has promised a special dish (Dutch Oven Style) of wild goose if we get enough goose breast donations. See the December Club Bulletin for packaging and labeling requirements. Leave the meat at Chuck's Meat & Lockers, 17 E. 1st Ave. In Kennewick, locker I-40. Chuck's holds the key. Contact Jerry Zeitler, Wild Game Dinner Chairman, at 545-6694 if you wish to volunteer your help with this event.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - The following Hunter Education classes are scheduled at the RRGc Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco: (Maximum of 25 persons each) January 20, 21 & 23 and January 27, 28 & 30.. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

RR&GC 1997 REMINGTON WILDLIFE CALENDARS: There are still some 1997 Club calendars available and will be available at the January General Meeting. The price is \$3.00. The calendars are produced by Remington and would cost much more than \$3.00 if purchased individually. This years motif is "BIG GAME OF NORTH AMERICA". Make sure to buy one at the General Meeting.

FRIENDS OF THE NRA BANQUET AND AUCTION: A date to mark on your calendar is Saturday March 14, 1997. The Friends of NRA Banquet and Auction will be held on that date at Cavanaugh's at Columbia Center. More details will follow as soon as they are available.

TOLL FREE BIRD BAND NUMBER: The toll free number reported in the December Bulletin was incorrect. If you bag any ducks or geese with a bird band, you can report the band to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by calling 1-800-327-2263 or 1-800-327-BAND. Be prepared to inform the party on the other end the band number, type of bird and its sex, and where you bagged it and the date. They will inform you where and when the bird was banded by mail.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Howard Gardner - Two classes, with a total of 45 students, were completed in November and December. Chief instructor was Howard Gardner. Other instructors assisting in the classes were Clare Cranston, Max Jones, Wayne Gardner, Don Board, Ben Holten, Jerry Zeitler, Don Hartshorn, Lyle Gilk and Bret Akers.

1996 WASHINGTON STATE YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP PARTICIPANTS: A total of 8 youth, sponsored by the RR&GC, attended the Washington State Youth Conservation Camp at Moran State Park on Orcas Island this summer. The camping fees for the 8 youth were paid by the RR&GC. One of the 8 youths was sponsored in the name of the Yakima County Search and Rescue Squad in appreciation for their help in delivering, setting up and taking down the Lunker Lake pond used at the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show. The youth who attended are: Ryan Block, Jessica Derrick, Jordan Case, Andrea Manthos, Tracy Ballinger, Alyssa Ballinger, Matt Shoop and Aaron Brown. The Outstanding Camper Of The Week was Aaron Brown from Kennewick who was sponsored in the Name of the Yakima Search and Rescue Squad. Jordan Case from Pasco took first place in the Swim Competition of the Boys Camp. Congratulations!!

BLUE MOUNTAINS ELK MORTALITY UPDATE: According to the December issue "The Big Horn" newsletter of the Inland Northwest Wildlife Council, at the end of October twenty deaths of elk calves have been documented. Five were caused by black bears, five were killed by cougars, three by undetermined predators, one was killed by a coyote and one was killed by an accidental fall. Five radios have been shed. The survival rate of radio marked calves through the end of October was 0.57 as compared with survival rates of 0.67 in 1993, 0.41 in 1994 and 0.54 in 1995 for the same time period.

FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION ADOPTS NEW THREE-YEAR HUNTING SEASONS AND REGULATIONS PACKAGE: The following is a portion of a WDFW news release dated December 7:

BELLINGHAM -- The state Fish and Wildlife Commission has approved a new, three-year hunting seasons and regulations package that calls for a major change in the type of elk that can be hunted in areas of western Washington. The commission also voted to move the elk season opening day to a Saturday, create a nine-day, three-point mule deer season in eastern Washington and reduce from three days to two the amount of time hunters will have to wait to elk hunt if they choose to apply for a permit. Cougar and black bear hunting seasons were also expanded in the wake of the recent passage of Initiative 655. The new seasons and regulations package will be effective from 1997 through 1999. The Department of Fish and Wildlife's Hunting Seasons and Rules pamphlet for the 1997-98 game species' seasons will contain complete information on the new regulations package. The pamphlet is expected to be available by mid-February at Department of Fish and Wildlife offices and businesses where hunting licenses are sold.

- Wildlife managers had proposed that commissioners adopt a statewide, spike-bull only elk season. Such seasons are designed to increase the ratio of adult bulls to cows in elk herds, and are already in effect in the Blue Mountains, Yakima and Colockum elk areas of eastern Washington. Spike bulls are generally yearlings, and are less effective breeders than older males. However, commissioners opted for less restrictive seasons in northeastern Washington and western Washington by limiting spike-only hunting to those areas that are presently designated in the hunting pamphlet as general bull hunting areas. The western Washington areas previously designated for three-point hunts and limited entry elk hunts were expanded, and areas that had been open for the take of any bull were converted to spike bull hunting with branched bull by permit.

- The commission's decision to expand black bear and cougar seasons was made in an effort to maintain the animals' harvest levels at a time when their populations are expanding and creating increasing nuisance problems. Initiative 655 bans the use of hounds to hunt cougars and black bears, and prohibits the use of bait to hunt black bears. These hunting techniques have proven to be the most effective way to hunt the animals. Presently, black bears are hunted in eastern Washington for two months a year. The new regulation package allows black bears to be hunted for three months and a week. In western Washington, black bears are now hunted for three months a year. The new regulation allows hunting to occur for up to four months, depending on the location. Additionally, in portions of western Washington, hunters will be allowed to kill two black bears a year instead of one in areas where the animal is causing damage to timber. Hunters who kill two bears would have to possess a general bear tag and a damage bear tag.

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- The number of female hunters has increased from 7% to 8% of the overall hunting population.
- Deer hunting has increased its lead as #1 hunting activity with 92% of hunters indicating that they hunted deer in 1995, up from 85% in 1986
- Turkey hunting has shown the greatest increase, with 44% of hunters indicating they hunted turkey in 1995, contrasted to 26% in 1986.
- Only 6% of hunters indicate they do not currently own a shotgun. 12% do not currently own a centerfire rifle; 26% do not currently own a rimfire rifle; 35% do not currently own a handgun; and 62% do not currently own a black powder rifle.
- The number of hunters indicating they hunt with a bow increased from 33% in 1991 to 45% in 1995.
- Frequency of participation in target shooting sports such as trap, skeet, and sporting clays remains relatively low, with a majority of most participants in these sports indicating they took part fewer than five times per year. (This contrasts with the average golfer who plays golf 36 times per year.)
- 57% of participants indicated they would target shoot more if a shooting facility was nearby.
- Nearly half of respondents indicated that seeing a television program about hunting/shooting would encourage them to schedule a day of hunting or shooting.

OTHER STATISTICS

- 90% of hunters surveyed have hunted every year since 1986
- 86% have been hunting for more than 10 years
- 71% shot more in 1995 than in previous years

- 44% have a problem finding the time to go hunting
- 45% bowhunt--12% more than in 1991
- 41% purchased a new shotgun within the last 5 years
- 44% purchased a new rifle within the last 5 years
- 65% bought new equipment rather than used
- 32% reload
- 59% participate in rifle and handgun target shooting
- 40% participate in trapshooting



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February, 1997

Volume 52, No.2

1997 Officers

Paul Logman, Pres. (946-5596)
Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Dennis Spore, V Pres. (627-0589)
Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING -February 4, 1997, 7:00 PM - FRANKLIN COUNTY PUD AUDITORIUM IN PASCO
BOARD MEETING - February 11, 1997, 7:00 PM - IT CORP., 1045 JADWIN, RICHLAND
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE -February 19, 1997, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009
FRIENDS OF NRA BANQUET & AUCTION - March 14, 1997, CAVANAUGHS AT COLUMBIA CENTER
RR&GC BIG GAME DINNER - March 22, 1997, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL, RICHLAND

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

- The February General Meeting will be held at the Franklin County PUD Auditorium in Pasco. The main speaker will be Ray Hennekey, a Team Leader of the Washington Department of Ecology. His topic will be the Yakima Clean Water Project. Ray was an exhibitor at the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show at the TRAC facility where he was contacted about speaking to the Club. This should be a very informative presentation, be sure to attend.
- Tickets for the Big Game Dinner will be sold at the General Meeting. Cost is \$15.00 per person. This may be your last chance to buy them.
- There may also be some 1997 Remington Wildlife Club Calendars available for sale at the meeting..

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

- The meeting was held at the RR&GC Hunter Education Facility at Big Pasco. At least 43 attendees were present, including a large number of youth. Harold Heacock, outgoing Club President, opened the meeting.
- A vote of thanks was given to Clare Cranston, Howard Gardner and Don Board for their efforts in the Club Hunter Education Program.
- The slate of officers and trustees which will govern the Club in 1997 was unanimously elected at the meeting. The new Club President is Paul Logman.. Paul chaired the meeting after the election.
- Outgoing President Harold Heacock was applauded for the excellent job he did in 1996.
- There was a swap session in which items of hunting/fishing equipment brought by attendees were exchanged. There were many surprises, especially for the youth. The items varied from duck decoys, reloading dies, empty brass, duck calls, and fishing tackle.
- Tickets for the Big Game Dinner went on sale. 1997 Club calendars were also on sale.
- Howard Gardner took over the meeting and explained the Hunter Safety Program. He went through the student manual and explained the student range day where the students use and shoot firearms. The students also go through a field course where hunting is simulated. They open and close gates, ask for permission to hunt from a landowner, etc. After training, they take a written multiple choice and true/false test that they are required to pass before they receive their Hunter Safety Certificate.
- Everyone then moved to the air rifle and pistol ranges behind the training facility, inside the building. Range officers

Lyle Gilk and Don Board explained the strict range rules, before any shots were fired. Those who desired shot air rifles and/or .38 special pistols with plastic bullets at targets. All targets were scored and recognition was given to the top 3 shooters in each category. The youth were especially enthusiastic about participating in the air rifle and pistol shoots. All in all, the meeting was a huge success. The Club will look into holding more meetings at the facility plus scheduling more meetings where participant events can take place.

CLUB ELECTION FOR OFFICERS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS: The election for Club officers and trustees was held at the January General Meeting. Your 1997 officers and Board of Trustees are:

President:	Paul Logman	Trustees:	Jim Ball, Don Board, Clare Cranston, John Cummings, Lyle Gilk,
V. President:	Dennis Spore		John Hall, David Koontz, Dale Landon, Larry Martin, Dave Myers,
Secretary:	Eddie Manthos		Jack Pickard, Rocky Ross, John Silko, Mike Thompson, & Ev Weakley.
Treasurer:	Mike Estes	Volunteers:	Howard Gardner, Jack Hampton, John Pfeiffer, Dale Schielke &
Past President:	Harold Heacock		Jerry Zeitler

QUALITY TRIP DRAWING RULES: Entry tickets for the 1997 Quality Trip can be purchased at the March General Meeting and at the Big Game Dinner, if the maximum of 100 tickets has not been sold. The drawing for the quality trip will be held at the Big Game Dinner on March 22, 1996. The rules are shown below and are identical to last years.

1. Only Club members with 1997 dues paid through April 1998 are eligible to purchase entry tickets.
2. Tickets are \$20 each, the value of the trip (amount paid to winners) is \$2,000.00.
3. A minimum of 50 tickets must be sold, the maximum sold will be 100.
4. Each member may purchase 2 tickets; with a family membership, the spouse and eligible dependents may also purchase 2 tickets each.
5. You must be 16 years of age or older at the time of the drawing to purchase tickets.
6. Winners will present a program, describing their Quality Trip, at a General Meeting of the membership.
7. The drawing will be held at the March 22, 1997 Big Game Dinner. You do not need be present to win.
8. The winner will select a partner who must be a member of the Richland Rod and Gun Club and who must also have participated in the drawing.
9. An alternate will also be drawn in the event the winner is unable to go. The alternate will select his/her own partner who must also be a club member and have been in the drawing.
10. Winners are requested to donate meat for the 1997 Big Game Dinner, assuming they are successful in harvesting their quarry.
11. The trip must be approved by the Board not later than the June Board meeting or the trip will be forfeited.
12. If the alternate is chosen to go, he/she must submit a written proposal by the September Board meeting or forfeit.

SPOKANE BIG HORN SHOW DATES: Dates for the Big Horn Show in Spokane are March 20-23. Other Sportsmen Shows are The International Sportsmens Exposition at the Kingdome in Seattle, Feb. 5-9 and the Central Washington Sportsmens Show in Yakima , Feb. 21-23.

47TH ANNUAL BIG GAME (WILD GAME) DINNER: The 47th Annual Wild Game Dinner will be held at the Richland Knights of Columbus Hall on Saturday March 22. Ticket cost is the same as last years, \$15.00 per person. Tickets will not be sold at the door on the night of the dinner. The social hour will start at 6:00 PM with dinner scheduled at 7:00 PM. The program speaker will be Dr. Bern Shanks, Director of The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

- Tickets will be sold at the February 4 General Meeting. You can also mail payment to the RR&GC, P.O. Box 337, Richland WA 99352. Mail orders will be honored, subject to the availability of unsold tickets.
- **Elk meat, goose and duck breast donations are still needed.** Dave Myers has promised a special dish (Dutch Oven Style) of wild goose if we get enough goose breast donations. See the December Club Bulletin for packaging and labeling requirements. Leave the meat at Chuck's Meat & Lockers, 17 E. 1st Ave. In Kennewick, locker I-40. Chuck's holds the key.
- **Big Game Dinner Chairman Jerry Zeitler is in need of volunteers for all areas of preparation for the dinner.** Please contact Jerry and offer your services, he needs people for all day March 22 starting at 8:00AM. You are also welcome if you can help for part of the day. If you are willing to donate a door prize for the dinner or if you know of anyone who is willing to donate a door prize, contact Jerry.
- If you are going to the dinner, please pay for your 1997 membership prior to the dinner. One of the major bottlenecks at prior dinners was the long line of people updating their membership. Many people have been forced to stand outside in a long line. Eliminate the bottleneck, update your membership beforehand at the February and March General Meetings

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - The following Hunter Education classes are scheduled at the

RRGC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco: (Maximum of 25 persons each) February 17, 18 & 20 and 24, 25 & 27 and at the Range on February 22. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

RICHARD FITZNER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: - Howard Gardner - The fifth annual scholarship was awarded to Wendy Michelle Krajewski. Wendy is majoring in Wildlife Resource Sciences and studied previously at the University of Nevada. The scholarship awards in the amount of \$500.00 were started in 1992 in memory of Richard Fitzner, a well respected biologist and Club member, who died in a tragic plane crash. The awards go to students in Wildlife Biology/Management. Previous recipients were Steven Bell and Brian Moser who both received the award twice.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ELK MORTALITY UPDATE: According to the January issue of "The Big Horn" newsletter of the Inland Northwest Wildlife Council. There were 2 more additional elk calf mortalities and 3 lost calves in early December that had not been located.

LUNKER LAKE UPDATE: Despite the icy roads, it appears that Lunker Lake and the Pellet Rifle Shooting Range at the Tri-Cities Sportsmen show were again successful this year. Approximately 1,600 trout were stocked in Lunker Lake at the beginning of the show. Sunday night, when the show ended, there were about 100 trout in the pond. That translates to about 1500 kids that were made happy catching perhaps their first fish. It's truly amazing to see how excited some of these youngsters get when they catch a fish.

RR&GC COMMITTEE INTEREST: The Club has at least 18 committees which are listed below. Not all of the committees exist or are active. When a new member joins the Club he is asked to indicate, on his application, which committees he is interested in. We have the applications of the newer members and can determine their interests. Unfortunately the applications of the older members and their interests are not available. We plan to activate/rejuvenate these committees and need to know your interests. Look at the list and mark your first three choices. Bring the list to the next General meeting and leave it with one of the Club officers. For those of you that do not submit a list, you will be contacted by a Club trustee or officer to determine your interest. Please study the list and bring it to the next General Meeting.

<input type="checkbox"/> Big Game	<input type="checkbox"/> Landowner-Sportsmen Relations	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish
<input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship	<input type="checkbox"/> Black Powder	<input type="checkbox"/> Habitat
<input type="checkbox"/> Hunter Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Program
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Archery	<input type="checkbox"/> Game Birds
<input type="checkbox"/> Migratory Waterfowl	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Dog Training
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Lands	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislative

SYNTHESIZED OR FAKE FUR: - Howard Gardner - To respond to those opposed to the use of animal fur, it is simply a matter of conservation of natural resources. Synthesized fur is made from nonrenewable natural resources, whereas animal fur comes from a renewable resource. Each year there is a renewable surplus of fur bearing animals that can be harvested for their fur. Nonrenewable resources used in the manufacture of fake fur are lost forever.

IN MEMORIAM: - Howard Gardner - Ferd Dreher, a past officer and trustee of the Club, died December 28, 1996 in Chandler, Arizona. Ferd and his wife Louise joined the Club in May 1956. Ferd served as Vice President and President of the Club in 1958 and 1959 respectively. In addition, he was chairman of the Landowner Sportsmen Committee on such projects as extensive habitat and related shelter belt plantings, "Hunting By Permission" sign distribution in cooperation with the then Game Department and a cleanup of litter around Camp Lake, south of Scooteny, which was open to public fishing. Although Ferd and his wife left the area in 1960 his great interest and many contributions to the Club have been and will be remembered.

NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS FOUNDATION HUNTING FREQUENCY/ATTITUDE SURVEY:

Every five years, starting in 1986, the National Shooting Sports Foundation has sponsored a survey of trends in hunting and shooting sports participation and attitudes. Results of the the 1996 study were just recently released. The study surveyed 1,250 individuals who purchased a hunting license in 1995 and includes a first time sub-set of 250 women hunters. Survey highlights are shown below:

- The number of younger hunters continues to decline. Hunters in the 18-24 age group declined from 17% of the hunting population in 1986 to 8% in 1996. Hunters in the 25-34 age group declined from 31% to 17%.

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endangered species. The system gives persons reporting poaching an advantage by awarding 10 bonus points in future deer and elk permit drawings. The permits are needed for some special hunts. Officials of the Department of Fish and Wildlife believe the new incentive of bonus points will be an effective tool to combat poaching. A cash reward of \$100, which the agency has offered for a number of years, still will be available for persons who elect to receive cash. "We have added one more incentive for hunters to be aware of poaching activities and to report them," said Lisa Pelly, chair of the commission. Anyone witnessing a poaching incident should contact local law enforcement authorities or notify the Department of Fish and Wildlife by using a statewide, toll-free number, 1-800-477-6224.

WDFW NEWS RELEASE, February 14, 1997: Smelt and sturgeon fishing extended in Columbia and tributaries. PORTLAND — Recreational smelt dipping on the Columbia River and its Washington tributaries has been extended until further notice, the Washington and Oregon departments of Fish and Wildlife announced Feb 14. The two agencies, meeting as the Columbia River Compact, also decided to briefly extend the Columbia River's commercial seasons for sturgeon and smelt. The sport fishery for smelt was scheduled to close at 12:01 a.m. Feb. 16 because the smelt run was expected to be small. Managers decided to extend the smelt season because commercial fishers have had catches six times larger than expected. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will monitor the smelt run closely to decide when fishing must cease. Commercial smelt fishers received a one-week extension. The Columbia River commercial smelt season will be open from 6 a.m. Feb. 20 through 6 p.m. Feb. 21. Commercial smelt fishing in Washington tributaries, including the Cowlitz River, will be open from 6 a.m. Feb. 18 through 6 p.m. Feb. 19. The two fish management agencies will meet again on Feb. 24 to discuss the

status of the smelt season. Commercial sturgeon fishers may fish for sturgeon and salmon from noon on Feb. 17 to 6 p.m. Feb. 18. Fish managers expect 400 sturgeon and 70 spring chinook will be taken during this period. The total commercial harvest for the season is expected to be 2,500 sturgeon and 120 spring chinook. There will be no further commercial sturgeon extensions in order to conserve spring chinook.



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

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99352

I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY DEFEND FROM WASTE THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY; ITS AIR, SOILS AND MINERALS; ITS FORESTS, WATERS, AND WILDLIFE. I WILL HELP EDUCATE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO BE RESPONSIBLE CARETAKERS OF THE RESOURCES OF AMERICA.

March, 1997
Volume 52, No.3

1997 Officers

Paul Logman, Pres. (946-5596)
Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Dennis Spore, V Pres. (627-0589)
Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING -March 4, 1997, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Gallery Room
BOARD MEETING -March 11, 1997, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Gallery Room, RICHLAND
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE -March 20, 1997, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009
FRIENDS OF NRA BANQUET & AUCTION - March 14, 1997, CAVANAUGHS AT COLUMBIA CENTER
RR&GC BIG GAME DINNER - March 22, 1997, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL, RICHLAND

MARCH GENERAL MEETING

- The March General Meeting will be held at the Richland Public Library at 7:00 PM Tuesday March 4. Main speakers will be the 1996 Quality Trip winners, Gaylord Pyle and Bob Lyness. They will share with us their elk hunting experiences last fall, in the Elk City, Idaho area.
- Larry McGowan, Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Mid-Columbia River National Wildlife Refuge, will be at the meeting to discuss proposed 1997 changes at the McNary Wildlife Refuge and the Umatilla Wildlife Refuge. The more significant changes will be at the McNary Wildlife Refuge because of comments received regarding overcrowding, racing to blinds, unsportsmanlike conduct, impacts of hunters shooting in the free roam area on other hunting parties, use of bicycles to out-compete others, etc. The proposed modifications will initially be for a one year trial period. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will hire a check station attendant, implement a reservation system, and hold a drawing for duck and goose blinds each morning of every hunt day. All hunting at the McNary Division will near pre-drawn stake blind sites. Present blind sites will be reevaluated for location that takes into account safety and disturbance to adjacent hunters. Larry will explain these and other changes. He is also very interested in your ideas about the refuges. If you cannot attend the meeting, you can write to: Larry McGowan, Mid Columbia National Wildlife Refuge Complex; P.O. Box 700, Umatilla, OR 97882-0700. He can be reached by phone at: (541) 922-3232. If you are a duck hunter you need to be at this meeting.
- Please check your Club membership expiration date on your membership card or the address label on this newsletter. Any membership date that does not read 4/98 or 4/99 is expired. A date that reads 4/97 will expire April 1 of this year. If your expiration date is 4/97 you will not be eligible for the 1997 Quality Hunt drawing at the big Game Dinner and some of the other drawings. Individual memberships are \$15/1 yr and \$40/3 yr. Family membership is \$20/1 yr and \$50/3 yr. A substantial savings at the 3 year rate. Your last chance to renew your membership, prior to the Big Game Dinner, will be at this General Meeting. If you renew at the meeting you will help eliminate a big bottleneck at the Big game Dinner. Help us out by simply renewing.
- There is a very slim chance that there may be some tickets for the Big Game Dinner available at the General Meeting. Cost is \$15.00 per person.

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

- It was announced at the meeting that the Big Game Regulations for the 1997 Hunting Season are at license dealers. The regulations have changed significantly. Big game hunters need to study the regulations carefully to learn how the changes will affect them. The number of permits per unit or hunt are not listed in the regulations but should be available by the end of April.
- The main speaker for the evening was Ray Hennekey, the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) coordinator for the Lower Yakima River Water Quality Project. Chris Coffin of the Washington State DOE assisted. Ray explained that the lower Yakima River extends from the Naches River in Yakima to where the Yakima River enters the Columbia River.. The lower Yakima River drainage encompasses 6500 square miles and an elevation range from 8200 to 300 feet. One half million acres of farms, orchards and vineyards are irrigated in the lower Yakima River basin and 2000 miles of irrigation delivery systems are utilized. There are times during the irrigation season that 80% of the water in the Yakima River. is “return” water. The Yakima River is seriously threatened by pollution. Some of the pollutants are suspended solids, pesticides, turbidity and water temperature. The DOE has started the Lower Yakima River Water Quality Project to restore water quality from the mouth of the Naches River at Yakima downstream to the Columbia River. Purpose of the presentation was to inform the Club of the “project” and to get our support in deciding how pollution will be reduced in the Lower Yakima River. The DOE hopes that the entire Yakima Valley Community will play a key role in deciding how pollution will be reduced.in the Lower Yakima River.

CLUB SCRAPBOOK: - Howard Gardner

In the 50's, 60's, and 70's various Club officers and members prepared scrapbooks of the Club's annual activities. I would like to locate as many as possible and gather them in one place to preserve as part of the Club's history. Anyone either having a scrapbook or knowing of the whereabouts of one, let me know (943-9084) and I will collect them. Thanks.

DONATION IN MEMORY OF MITCH KERSHAW: - Howard Gardner

Mitch Kershaw was a well liked and respected Game Warden in Benton County during the 1950s, 60s, and early 70s. When he passed away in 1978, I wrote an “In Memoriam” for the Club bulletin. As a result of that, his son recently donated \$2000 to the Club for use in youth activities. Mitch had a special interest in helping youth in the area. The Club is particularly grateful for this exceptional gift and will put it to good use.

QUALITY TRIP DRAWING RULES: Entry tickets for the 1997 Quality Trip can be purchased at the March General Meeting and at the Big Game Dinner, if the maximum of 100 tickets has not been sold. Come to this month’s General Meeting and listen to the experiences of last years Quality Trip winners. The drawing for the Quality Trip will be held at the Big Game Dinner on March 22, 1997. The rules are shown below and are identical to last years.

1. Only Club members with 1997 dues paid through April 1998 are eligible to purchase entry tickets.
2. Tickets are \$20 each, the value of the trip (amount paid to winners) is \$2,000.00.
3. A minimum of 50 tickets must be sold, the maximum sold will be 100.
4. Each member may purchase 2 tickets; with a family membership, the spouse and eligible dependents may also purchase 2 tickets each.
5. You must be 16 years of age or older at the time of the drawing to purchase tickets.
6. Winners will present a program, describing their Quality Trip, at a General Meeting of the membership.
7. The drawing will be held at the March 22, 1997 Big Game Dinner. You do not need be present to win.
8. The winner will select a partner who must be a member of the Richland Rod and Gun Club and who must also have participated in the drawing.
9. An alternate will also be drawn in the event the winner is unable to go. The alternate will select his/her own partner who must also be a club member and have been in the drawing.
10. Winners are requested to donate meat for the 1997 Big Game Dinner, assuming they are successful in harvesting their quarry.
11. The trip must be approved by the Board not later than the June Board meeting or the trip will be forfeited.
12. If the alternate is chosen to go, he/she must submit a written proposal by the September Board meeting or forfeit.

SPOKANE BIG HORN SHOW DATES: Dates for the Big Horn Show in Spokane are March 20-23.

47TH ANNUAL BIG GAME (WILD GAME) DINNER: The 47th Annual Wild Game Dinner will be held at the Richland Knights of Columbus Hall on Saturday March 22. The social hour will start at 6:00 PM with dinner scheduled at 7:00 PM. The program speaker will be Dr. Bern Shanks, Director of The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

- Tickets, if not sold out, will be sold at the March 4 General Meeting. Cost is \$15.00 per person.

- There will be at least 2 raffles at the Dinner. A “DOGLOO II” doghouse valued at \$250.00 and donated by Pasco RANCH AND HOME and a case of wine donated by Harold Heacock will be raffled off. Tickets will be sold at the dinner.
- **Elk meat, goose and duck breast donations are still needed.** Dave Myers has promised a special dish (Dutch Oven Style) of wild goose if we get enough goose breast donations. See the December Club Bulletin for packaging and labeling requirements. Leave the meat at Chuck’s Meat & Lockers, 17 E. 1st Ave. In Kennewick, locker I-40. Chuck’s holds the key.
- Big Game Dinner Chairman Jerry Zeitler is in need of volunteers for all areas of preparation for the dinner. Please contact Jerry and offer your services, he needs people for all day March 22 starting at 8:00 AM. You are also welcome if you can help for part of the day. If you are willing to donate a door prize for the dinner or if you know of anyone who is willing to donate a door prize, contact Jerry.
- **Please, Please!!** If you are going to the dinner, pay for your 1997 membership prior to the dinner. One of the major bottlenecks at prior dinners was the long line of people updating their membership. Many people have been forced to stand outside in a long line. Eliminate the bottleneck, update your membership beforehand at the March General Meeting.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - **Clare Cranston** - The following Hunter Education classes are scheduled at the RR&GC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco: (Maximum of 25 persons each) March 17, 18 & 20 and 24, 25 & 27 and at the Range on March 22. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

LUNKER LAKE UPDATE: The Club had a good year at the Lunker Lake fishing pond in January at the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show. Many thanks to the 90+ volunteers who made a lot of youngsters very happy. The volunteer list is so long that we can’t name everyone individually. We would like to acknowledge *Yakima Search and Rescue* for helping us put up and take down the pond. On Saturday John Silko spent most of the day with his Polaroid camera taking photographs, at the parents request, of the youngsters with the fish they caught. The parents purchased the photograph(s) for the cost of the film. The pond started out with 1600 trout and approximately 1500 trout were caught. In 1996 1263 of 1500 trout were caught. In 1995, 1029 of 1100 trout were caught and in 1994, 695 of 1000 were caught. The air rifle range was again very popular this year, over 1000 youths participated at the shooting range. The Club received a total of \$719.45 which will be used to send boys and girls to the Washington State Youth Conservation Camp on Orcas Island. This year two of the girls that attended the 1996 Youth Conservation Camp, Jessica Derrick and Andrea Manthos, helped at Lunker Lake and were especially effective at helping the younger children catch fish.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to the following new Club members: Rob Rogers of Kennewick, Charles A. McGee of Richland, Carl M. Stull of Richland and Stephen H. Dart and Family from Pasco.

WDFW NEWS RELEASE February 13, 1997: **Two Tucannon lakes open for trout fishing March 1 through October.** SPOKANE -- Just two of the seven Tucannon River man-made lakes in southeast Washington will be stocked with hatchery rainbow trout for the March 1 opening fishing season. But the season probably will be extended through October, to help make up for the lack of fishing at the other five lakes. The lakes normally close at the end of July. Spring and Rainbow lakes, the lower two of the seven impoundments along the river in Columbia County, will be stocked with a total of 70,000 catchable-size rainbows from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Tucannon Fish Hatchery. The other five lakes Deer, Watson, Beaver, Big Four, and Blue cannot be stocked with fish because they have intake, access or sediment problems, some of which were caused or worsened by recent flooding. Work to correct those problems will start this spring, but not in time to allow fish stocking. The man-made lakes traditionally have been open for fishing March 1 through July 31. Last year, when February flooding delayed fish stocking, the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission took emergency action to extend the season through October 31. This year WDFW biologists proposed that extension be made permanent. The commission still must approve the proposal. The season extension is partly to make up for the limited fish stocking in the lakes, but also because fewer fish have been stocked in the Tucannon River system in recent years. The Tucannon River drainage is home to endangered chinook salmon which biologists believe could be harmed by fishing for hatchery-stocked rainbow trout and competition for the same habitat. Fewer hatchery trout are stocked in the river, so more of them will go into the man-made lakes throughout a longer season.

WDFW NEW RELEASE, February 6, 1997: **Turning in poachers will net rewards for hunters.** OLYMPIA Deer and elk poaching may be more difficult in the future because of a new reporting incentive created by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission. The commission on Feb 1 authorized a reward system for people who provide information that leads to the arrest of a person for illegally killing big game animals or those listed as

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the list." Hoff said ESA (Endangered Species Act) considerations could require changes in the three fishing options passed today by the PFMC. He noted that fishing plans for Alaska and British Columbia are extremely uncertain, making the job of defining fishing seasons for the Washington coast and inland waters very difficult. Neither Alaska nor British Columbia participate in the PFMC season-setting process. Shanks said the difficulties in shaping fishing opportunities around weak wild runs underline the need for the state to rebuild wild stocks. The draft of the state Wild Salmonid Policy containing five options for rebuilding the stocks will be available to the public in the next few weeks. At that time the department will launch a major public involvement effort designed to obtain public comment and suggestions for improving the policy. The plight of wild salmon in other portions of Washington will become more apparent next week when the ocean options will be linked to possible salmon fisheries in Puget Sound, Grays Harbor, Willapa Bay and in the Columbia River at the public North of Falcon meeting scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, March 12 & 13, at the Red Lion Inn at the Quay, 100 Columbia St. in Vancouver, Wash. For example, several of the Puget Sound chinook stocks are in extremely poor condition. On the other hand, almost 1.8 million coho are expected to return to Puget Sound and 11.4 million Fraser River pink salmon should pass through the Strait of Juan de Fuca, according to PFMC forecasts. Final ocean salmon seasons will be set at the PFMC meeting in San Francisco during the week of April 7. Seasons and limits for Puget Sound and other inland waters will be published in the Fishing in Washington regulations pamphlet available at all department office and license dealers on May 1.

"OUTDOOR STORE" DISCOUNT OFFERED TO RR&GC MEMBERS: The Outdoor Store located at in downtown Kennewick at #2 W Kennewick Ave is offering a 10% discount on all merchandise to RR&GC members. Present a valid membership card and you will receive the discount.



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APRIL, 1997
Volume 52, No.4

1997 Officers

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Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Dennis Spore, V Pres. (627-0589)
Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING -April 1, 1997, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Gallery Room
BOARD MEETING -April 8, 1997, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Gallery Room
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE -April 24, 1997, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

APRIL GENERAL MEETING

It's that time of the year again. Department of Fish & Wildlife representatives will be at the April meeting to present the 1997 fishing outlook and forecasts for Regions 1, 2 and 3. Be sure to be there and learn where the best fishing will be this year. The representatives should be able to answer any questions about your favorite fishing lakes or streams. There should also be plenty of new handouts for you to take home. If you are a fisherman, as most of are, this is one meeting you don't want to miss. The April General Meeting will be held at the Richland Public Library at 7:00 PM Tuesday April 1.

MARCH GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

The 1996 Quality Trip winners Gaylord Pyle and Bob Lyness were the main speakers and they described their elk hunting trip at Warm Springs at the Idaho-Montana border in the Selway-Bitterroot mountains from Sept. 24 to Oct. 1. It was a guided trip and they packed in to the hunting camp on horseback. The temperatures during the day ran from 65 to 70 degrees and it frosted at night. Including Gaylord and Bob there were a total of five hunters in the camp. None of the hunters bagged an elk. Bob and Gaylord did see some elk that were not legal. They saw plenty of moose sign and some moose at the 6000 ft. elevation. They saw very little elk sign. Their hunt was enjoyable and the food was good, unfortunately the elk did not cooperate. There was an average of one guide per two hunters. One of the problems may have been that the guides were relatively inexperienced.

Larry McGowan, Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Mid-Columbia River National Wildlife Refuge, discussed proposed 1997 changes at the McNary Wildlife Refuge and the Umatilla Wildlife Refuge. He received many comments about the changes. Especially about the advanced registration system at the McNary refuge and the \$3.00 per application and \$5.00 daily fee per hunter or \$10.00 fee per group. A \$50.00 season refuge pass good for 8 hunt days will also be available. A limit of 2 hunters per blind/pit was not very popular and it was suggested that the 2 hunter limit be reevaluated. Upland bird hunting after 12 o'clock noon will be allowed. There will be no fee charged for the upland bird hunting but hunters must obtain a free permit/pass before they start hunting. The proposed changes will be for a one year trial period and then be reevaluated for future years. Larry explained that one of the reasons he came to the meeting was to get comments from waterfowl hunters, he wrote all the comments down that he received and they will be considered when the final regulations are established. We will print the final changes in this newsletter as soon as they are made available.

Raffle winners were Rocky Ross - a \$50.00 gift certificate to Phil's Sporting Goods, Mike Estes and John Murphy each won a 1997 calendar.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - The following Hunter Education classes are scheduled in April at the RR&GC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco: (Maximum of 25 persons each) April 14, 15 & 17 and 21, 22 & 23 and at the Range on April 19. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to the following new Club members: Bill Dress and family from Pasco, Clarence Corriveau and family from Richland and Mike Keller from Kennewick.

TRAPPER EDUCATION CLASSES: (*Information from the WDFW*) All first-time Washington trappers, regardless of age, are required to successfully complete Trapper Education training or successfully challenge the written examination process. Trapper Education courses are offered only between June and October; enroll early if you are interested. The Washington State Trapper's Association sponsors one course each year at their rendezvous on the third weekend in August. Their location varies from year to year, so call Roger Barney at (360) 273-7543 to learn about this year's class location. Dates and locations for other classes reasonably close to the Tri-Cities are:

- Chelan County, Sep (last Sat) Call Roy Breeden @662-0109
- Grant County, Oct TBA Moses Lake, location TBA, call WDF&W @ 754-4624
- Spokane County, Sep TBA Regional Office, WDF&W, call 456-4082
- Yakima County, Sep (third Sat) Yakima, call Chuck Van Dyke @ 453-9960
- Walla Walla County, Sep (third Sat) Walla Walla, call Marty Weatherup @ 337-6831
- Okanogan County, Sep 27 Omak Hatchery, call 826-4527 or 923-2326

WDFW NEWS RELEASE CONCERNING MULE DEER HUNTING IN EASTERN WASHINGTON: March 7, 1997
"Wildlife biologists to recommend reduction in Eastern Washington mule deer hunting because of harsh winter." OLYMPIA
State wildlife biologists will recommend that mule deer hunting in some parts of eastern Washington be curtailed or reduced this year because severe winter conditions have taken a heavy toll on herds. Biologists say mule deer populations on the eastern slopes of the Cascades have been hard hit by deep snow and extended periods of freezing temperatures. While accurate mortality rates are not yet available, some herds are believed to have lost extremely large numbers of animals. "Harsh winter conditions have had a big impact on some of our eastern Washington mule deer herds, far larger than we would normally expect," said Department of Fish and Wildlife Director Bern Shanks. "Preliminary numbers show that in Chelan County alone, the bad weather may have claimed up to half of the mule deer fawns." As a result of the high mortality rates, biologists will recommend to state Fish and Wildlife commissioners next month that no buck, or doe, hunting permits be issued for many areas on the eastern slopes of the Cascades. These are the areas identified in the department's hunting pamphlet as the 200 and 300 series game management units. Even though special permit hunts are identified in the 1997 hunting pamphlet, hunters should not apply for these permits until after permit quotas are established by the Fish and Wildlife Commission. Rolf Johnson, who oversees deer and elk programs for the department, said elk herds that inhabit these same areas have not experienced the same across the board losses as the mule deer herds. Elk are able to withstand severe winter conditions far better than mule deer. However, biologists will recommend that no elk hunting permits be issued in a few game management units where losses have been substantial. The number of permits issued will be reduced in several other units. Johnson said deer herds in the Blue Mountains of southeastern Washington have thus far been spared severe winter conditions, and whitetail deer in northeast Washington appear to have coped well with severe winter conditions. Hence, biologists will be recommending only minor changes in hunting permit numbers in those areas. Specific information on permit level recommendations may be obtained from the Department of Fish and Wildlife in Olympia. The information can also be obtained at the department's regional offices statewide. The Fish and Wildlife Commission will meet to vote on the recommendations on April 18-19 in Longview at the Elks Lodge, 1265 12th Avenue. To obtain permit level quotas, hunters can contact the Department or their closest hunting license dealer on or after April 23. The information will also be available on the Internet at <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw>. Hunters are reminded that applications for special permits are due May 2.

WDFW ANNOUNCES COLUMBIA UPRIVER SPRING CHINOOK SEASON: March 14, 1997. OLYMPIA -- "The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has set the spring chinook sport season for Columbia River tributaries above Bonneville Dam." The dates and regulations were adopted to allow fishing opportunities for hatchery chinook and steelhead while protecting wild salmon runs. The area is cooperatively managed with the Yakama Indian Nation. WDFW biologists are predicting a sport catch of nearly 6,500 fish during the season. The seasons and regulations set by the agency are:

- **Wind River** -- Fishing is allowed from the mouth boundary markers to 400 feet below Shipherd Falls from April 1 to May 31 with a daily limit of two salmonids, salmon or hatchery steelhead. From June 1 through June 15, the Wind River from the High Bridge to the lower boundary markers below Carson National Fish Hatchery is open to salmon fishing. The daily limit is two salmon. The portion of the river between Shipherd Falls and the High Bridge will remain

closed to provide a larger sanctuary for spring chinook. *An earlier WDFW announcement said the area would be open for salmon fishing.* The steelhead season reverts to permanent regulations beginning June 1. Night closure and non-buoyant lure restrictions are in effect April 1 through May 31.

- **Drano Lake (Little White Salmon River)** -- Open April 1 through May 15 below the markers on the point of land downstream and across from the federal salmon hatchery and upstream of the Highway 14 bridge. The daily limit is two salmonids, salmon or hatchery steelhead. Night closure and non-buoyant lure restrictions are in effect.
- **White Salmon River** -- Fishing is allowed April 1 through July 31 from the markers below the Burlington Northern railroad bridge upstream to the powerhouse. The river is also open April 1 through June 15 from the powerhouse to 400 feet downstream from Northwestern (Condit) Dam. The daily limit is one salmon.
- **Klickitat River** -- Open from the mouth to Fisher Hill Bridge. Fishing allowed only on Wednesdays and Saturdays, April 2 to May 31. Night closure and non-buoyant lure restrictions are in effect. The daily limit is one salmonid, either a salmon or a hatchery steelhead.
- **Ringold Hatchery area** -- Open from the marker 1/4 mile downstream of the Ringold wasteway outlet, upstream to the marker 1/2 mile above Springs Creek. Fishing allowed daily, May 1 through July 31. The daily limit is two salmon. Fishing is permitted from the bank only on the hatchery side of the Columbia River. Springs Creek is closed. WDFW biologists recommended the later opening for the Ringold area to allow upper Columbia River spring chinook to pass. Steelhead angling is open all year under permanent regulations.
- **Icicle Creek** -- Will be open daily from May 8 through May 31 from the mouth to the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery. The daily limit is one salmonid, either a salmon or hatchery steelhead. From June 1 to June 30, the daily limit is one salmon. The waters within 400 feet downstream of the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery rack are closed. The steelhead season reverts to permanent regulations beginning June 1. Night closure and non-buoyant lure restrictions are in effect May 8 to June 30.

WASHINGTON COAST MAY OFFER LIMITED CHINOOK SEASON: PORTLAND, March 7, 1997 -- "The first recreational and commercial fishing for chinook salmon from Westport since 1993 may occur this summer." Three of the four ocean fishing options placed before the public for review today by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) include chinook and/or coho quotas. "We know the people and businesses of ocean fishing towns such as Ilwaco and Westport desperately need salmon seasons and we are doing the best we can to offer fishing opportunities this year," said Bern Shanks, director of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. "While the economies of these towns are important, Washington and other northwestern states also must focus on rebuilding their salmon runs. The resource must come first. That effort is going to require sacrifices from everyone," he added. Shanks said no one should assume the wild salmon situation in Washington is improving significantly by the fact that the PFMC is considering chinook fisheries in the ocean this summer. He explained the majority of the chinook that would be caught off the Washington Coast this year are from Washington and Oregon hatcheries along the Columbia River and there are a few more of these fish that can be harvested this year. One reason for this improved situation is the hatcheries don't need the chinook for spawning purposes because Oregon hatchery production has been cut drastically in response to reductions in federal support. "This is a once-only dividend. The offspring of those Oregon hatchery fish won't be in the ocean to provide fisheries in future years," Shanks warned. But the need to protect record low runs of wild coho salmon from Grays Harbor and north Washington coastal rivers will determine what fishing opportunities will be available in the ocean, where the weak stocks of wild fish mix with wild coho and chinook from strong runs as well as hatchery fish. Based on conservation needs, here are the options passed by the council today (March 7):

- Option 1: Total catch of 20,000 chinook (5,000 for recreational fishers and 15,000 to commercial) and 50,000 coho for recreational fishers.
- Option 2: 40,000 chinook to be divided equally between recreational and commercial fishers on the coast. No coho season.
- Option 3: A 12,000-chinook quota for recreational fishers off Westport but no coho. Ilwaco and other Columbia River ports would have a 25,000-coho ocean quota while Neah Bay would have a 6,500 coho quota. Commercial trollers would have a 13,000-chinook quota in the ocean.
- Option 4: No ocean chinook or coho fishing.

Department biologists said Option 3 offers chinook fishing for Westport to protect low runs of wild coast coho stocks. More coho would die if chinook fishing were offered off the Columbia and at Neah Bay. The option crafts seasons based on where the two species of salmon concentrate. Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists say some peninsula runs could be the lowest on record. "We've got to be very careful how we shape fisheries where those wild coho stocks are at risk," warned Jim Hoff, Shank's representative on the PFMC. "Anglers fishing for chinook will cause some hooking mortality among wild coho no matter how carefully they are released. Option 3 was crafted to offer chinook fishing that would minimize north coastal coho mortality." The Olympic Peninsula coho aren't the only weak stocks needing protection. "Some Columbia chinook runs look moderately stronger this year," Hoff said. "But we can't forget the Snake River chinook stock already is listed under the Endangered Species Act. We will find out later this year if any Columbia River chinook or coho stocks will be proposed for

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HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - The following Hunter Education classes are scheduled in May at the RR&GC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco: (Maximum of 25 persons each) May 12, 13 & 15 & 19, 20 & 22 and at the Range on May 17. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

SIDEWALK ARTS SHOW (ART IN THE PARK) SALMON BOOTH: The Sidewalk Arts Show at Howard Amon Park will be July 25 & 26 of this year. The RR&GC and Columbia Basin Fly Casters will again sponsor a Salmon Booth. Set up of the booth and preparation of salmon "boats" etc will take place Thursday evening July 24; 15 to 20 volunteers are needed starting at 6:00 pm. Ten to 11 volunteers are needed for each of the shifts that run from 9 am - 1 pm, 1 pm - 4 pm, 4 pm - 8 or 9 pm on Friday and Saturday. If you know what days/shifts you can work please call Howard Gardner at 943-9084. Dates for obtaining a "Food Servers Card" or renewing an expired card will be announced in the next Bulletin. The cards can also be obtained from the Health Department by calling 582-7761 and scheduling an appointment. The Club will reimburse the cost of the card.

POSSIBLE BOARD MEETING CHANGE: The Board of Directors traditionally has met on the third Tuesday of the month. Last year it met on the second Tuesday of the month because of conflicts with other meetings. It turns out, that this year, the second Tuesday conflicts with other meetings of some Board members. All Board members, please look at your schedule and see which Tuesday would be most suitable for you and let one of the Board Officers know your choice at the General Meeting. If you can't make the General Meeting call Paul Logman or Eddie Manthos and inform them of your choice.

1997 DEER & ELK PERMIT QUOTAS: The 1997 permit quotas for deer and elk will be available by April 23, at WDFW Olympia and regional offices, hunting and fishing license dealers and WDFW Home Page at: <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw>. Permit applications are available at hunting and fishing license dealerships, and WDFW Olympia and regional offices. A single application is \$3.00. A partnership application is \$6.00.

Application deadline: Applications must be postmarked no later than May 2, 1997, or received no later than 5:00 p.m., May 2, 1997, at the WDFW Olympia or regional offices. Hopefully you will receive and read this Bulletin before May 2.

1997 NORTHERN SQUAWFISH SPORT-REWARD PROGRAM: The Northern Squawfish Sport reward program will be in effect this year from May 19 through October 5. Call the squawfish hotline at 1-800-858-9015 for more information.



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

P. O. BOX 337
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON
99352

I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY DEFEND FROM WASTE THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY; ITS AIR, SOILS AND MINERALS; ITS FORESTS, WATERS, AND WILDLIFE. I WILL HELP EDUCATE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO BE RESPONSIBLE CARETAKERS OF THE RESOURCES OF AMERICA.

MAY, 1997
Volume 52, No.5

1997 Officers

Paul Logman, Pres. (946-5596)
Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Dennis Spore, V Pres. (627-0589)
Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING -May 6, 1997, 7:00 PM - West Richland Public Library, 3803 Van Giesen, Next Door To West Richland City Hall.

BOARD MEETING -May 13, 1997, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE -May 19, 1997, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

MAY GENERAL MEETING

- Speaker at the May 6 General meeting will be Ken Bevis, a Yakama Indian Nation Biologist. His topic will be "The Effect of Fire on a Forest Ecosystem." The meeting will start at 7:00 PM and will be held at the West Richland Public Library. The library is at 3803 Van Giesen. It is on the left hand side of the road, if you enter West Richland over the Yakima River Bridge, and is located next to City Hall. Please note that this a new location!!

APRIL GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

- Ray Duff, Doug Fletcher and Keith Wolf, Department of Fish and Wildlife fish biologists from Regions 1, 2 and 3 respectively, discussed the fishing prospects for this year at the April meeting. They gave out a lot of good and interesting information. Some of the information I found interesting was that Lower Goose Lake in the Potholes is being managed as a warm water fish lake (Warm Water Fish Enhancement). All lakes on the north side of McMannaman Road will be managed as trout lakes and lakes on the south side will be managed as warm water fish lakes. Sprague lake will be very good for bluegill, crappie and walleye this year. The outlook for the fall run of upriver bright chinook salmon in the Hanford Reach is expected to be very good, the fish numbers are expected to be the highest in 6 years. A *High Lakes Primer* for trout fishing in the high lakes of Region 3 (Yakima) can be examined/obtained from the WDFW office in Yakima. You can try calling the Yakima office ((509)575-2740) to learn more about High Lakes fishing and how to obtain a *High Lakes Primer*. Handouts showing Fish Plant Summaries for regions 1 and 3 were also available at the meeting. The 1997-1998 Fishing Regulations Summary should be at license dealers and WDFW offices by May 1. Raffle winners were: Jessica Derrick - a fishing rod and reel, Dave Koontz - Coleman Fluorescent Light Lantern, and Earl Lloyd - a 2 day dog boarding certificate at Sagemoor Kennels (donated by Calvin Fulks who won the certificate at the Big Game Dinner.)

MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION INFORMATION: Some Club members have not renewed their membership dues because they believed that the Club would notify them or send them a bill when their membership expired. The Club does not send out expiration notices. Your membership expiration date is shown at the top of your mailing label. If the expiration date on this months label is marked in red, your membership has expired. You can renew your membership at any of the General or Board meetings. You can also renew your membership by mail. Send your dues along with a note to RR&GC, P.O. Box 337, Richland, WA 99352. If you want to drop your membership, please call Jack Pickard at 582-5397 and save him a lot of work.

Jack has been spending a lot of time on the phone calling up all members whose membership expired in 1996. Individual memberships are \$15/1 yr and \$40/3 yr. Family membership is \$20/1 yr and \$50/3 yr. A substantial savings at the 3 year rate.

BIG GAME DINNER: The Big Game Dinner on March 22 was again a big success thanks to Chairman Jerry Zeitler, and his crew of volunteer helpers. Preparations for the dinner began immediately after the 1996 Big Game Dinner. There were many Club members who donated game and who worked hard to make this years dinner a success. The list is so long that it would be difficult to acknowledge them all. We owe them all many thanks. The food, as always, was delicious. The program by Brett Tiller was spectacular and I'm sure really had elk hunters sitting on the edge of their chair. Dave Myers was very effective as Master of Ceremonies. There were two raffles, three special drawings and many door prizes that are listed below: Please forgive me if I misspelled your name, left you off the list or if I credited you with winning the wrong prize, it was a very busy night. Winner of the \$2000 Quality Trip was Steve Wray the alternate is Harold Heacock. Donors and winners of the raffles special drawings and door prizes were:

Raffle Winners

Ranch & Home Supply Inc., Pasco, \$115 DOGLOO II w/Mat & Weather Door - *Mike Nelson*
Dennis Brunson, Water Color Painting "Blue Mountain Muley", Richland - *Gertrude Haggard*

Members Only

Sportsman-Landowner Club, Clarkston WA, 1997 Game Bird Membership With Guest Permit and with a value of \$900.00 -*Terral Finger*
Big John's Guide Service, Richland,\$500 Two Day Guided Walleye & Trout Fishing, (John James & Jerry Massey), Trip Below Grand Coulee Dam - *Lynn Logman*

Food Donor Drawing

Zebco Corp, Tulsa, OK, Quantum Iron IRC4 Bait Casting Reel & IRC66MH Rod Combo - *Jerry Zeitler*

Volunteers

Alexander's Art Gallery, Richland, Art Print - *Karen Schielke*

Kitchen Help

John Clement Gallery, Kennewick, Photo Print - *Jerry Zeitler*

DOOR PRIZES
RICHLAND

BBM, Elk Pin - *Mike Nelson*
The Book Place (Shirley Miller), \$10 Gift Certificate - *Vern Till*
Lone Rock Resources (John Silko), "Natural Environment Reference Books" - *Jennifer Derrick,*
Carol Meyers & Andrea Manthos

Trustworthy Hardware, Playmate Cooler - *Edith Hampton*
Bill's Fishing Hole, Eagle Claw Rod & Ambassador Reel - *Mike Haggerty*
The Book Worm, \$10 gift Certificate - *Sean Bant*
Harry's Restaurant - Tower Inn, \$30 Gift Certificate, Dinner for Two - *Joe Flerchinger*
Las Margaritas, Gift Certificate, Dinner for Two - *Mike Turner*
O'Callahans - Shilo Inn, \$30 Gift Certificate, Dinner for Two - *Mrs. Till*
O'Callahans - Shilo Inn, \$20 Gift Certificate, Brunch for Two - *Mindy Pickard*
TerraceRestaurant, Richland Red Lion - Hanford House , Gift Certificate, Sunday Brunch for Two - *Rob Rogers*
Les Schwab Tire Center, Passenger Car Wheel Alignment Gift Certificate - *Jack Varnado*
Desert Veterinary Clinic Inc. PS, Free Pre Hunting Season Dog Examination Certificate - *Al Vickery*
Taylor Automotive, Auto Tool Kit - *LeoPfeifer*
Richland Schwinn, \$10 Gift Certificates - *Margaret Davis, Bob Lyness, Diane Hart, John Pfeiffer*

PASCO

Columbia Grain and Feed Co., Gift Certificate for Bag of Pro Plan Dog Food - *John Hall*
Coleman Veterinary Clinic, \$50 Veterinary Service Certificate - *Ben Webb*
Rosso's Ristorante, Pasco Red Lion, Gift Certificate, Brunch for Two - *Dennis Brunson*
Sage Moor Kennels, 2 Day Boarding Certificate w/2 Playtime Periods - *Calvin Fulks*
Phil's Sporting Goods, Shooting Bag, PLANO Jacket, Palm Light, etc., *Steve Brumley, Nancy Manthos, Jerry Walker,*
Kendra Bacus, Craig Sullins

KENNEWICK

Pet Care Specialties, (Patty Pomeroy/Dave Huff), 40-Lb. Healthy Harvest Dog Food, 6' Lead & Reflector Collar, 4 Grooming Brushes & Combs - *Dean Miller, Buss Vickery, LouAnn Schielke, John Silko, Steve Adams*
Meadow Hills Veterinary Center, (Dr.'s J Swailes & S. Thorson) AVID Microchip Pet I.D. System - *Gary Hinkle*

Red Wing Shoe Store (D. Boehm), Woman's "Vasque-Alpha" Hiking Boots - *Kathy Myers*
Sea Galley, 2 ea.\$15 Gift Certificates for Dinner - *Nancy Pfeiffer, Milton Cooper*
Blackberry's Restaurant, \$20 Gift Certificate, Dinner for Two - *Sue Miller*
Casa Chapala, Dinner for Two, Gift Certificate - *Stewart White*
Cavanaugh's Landing, \$20 Gift Certificate, Lunch for Two - *Mary VanLiew*
Red Robin Burger & Spirits Inc., 2 ea.\$5 Gift Certificates - *Randy Taylor*
Clearwater Fly Shop, \$15 Gift Certificate - *Rick McFall*
Vista Veterinary Hospital, Pre-Season Hunting Dog Physical, Certificate - *Angela Tate*
Hole In The Wall, Gift Certificate for 1 Yr. Membership To Their Pistol Range - *Steve Wray*
Metz Marina, 2 - Fishing Rod Holders - *Orville Long, Julie Schmidt*
Tri-City Americans, Autographed Hockey Stick - *Karen Vickery*
Ramada Inn Restaurant, Clover Island, \$20 Gift Certificate, Lunch for Two - *Steve Degrood*
The Brew Garden, (A Furubotten & S. Colean), 1 Growler with 1 Gift Certificate - *Sandy Myers*
Summit Up To Hair, (W.McAdie & D. Kunkel)Gift Certificate, Haircut & Style, 1 set Hair Care Products -
Vern Till, Tracy Becker

Wal-Mart, Shimano TX 2000 Spinning Reel - *Tim Tate*

OTHER PRIZES

Remington Calendar Art Print Framed By McCoys Craft Village, Kennewick - *Harry Schmidt*
Remington Calendar Art Print Framed By You & I Framing, Kennewick - *Jim Rasmussen*

NON TRI-CITIES

Western Outdoors, Costa Mesa, CA, 1 Year Subscriptions - *Lorna Manthos, Matt Cummings, Bret Tiller*

Special THANK YOU's to Albertsons in Richland, Chuck's Meat & Lockers in Kennewick and Phil's Sporting Goods In Pasco. Albertsons baked the potatoes we ate at the dinner, Chuck's makes a locker(s) available to the Club for year round use in addition to donating game sausage for the hors d'oeuvres. Phil's supports the Club's Hunter Education program financially and in other ways.

BIG GAME DINNER RECIPE - MEYER'S "DUTCH OVEN" WATERFOWL DELIGHT - Dave Myers.

The key to the recipe is the marinade: <u>Brady's Game Marinade</u>	
1 ½ cup Salad Oil	1 Tbs Black Pepper
3/4 cup Soy Sauce	½ cup Wine Vinegar
1/4 cup Worcestershire Sauce	1 ½ Tsp Dried Parsley Flakes
2 Tbs Dry Mustard	2 Crushed Garlic Cloves
2 1/4 Tsp Salt (I leave this out, enough salt in Soy Sauce)	1/3 cup Lemon Juice

Combine and mix well all marinade ingredients. Place meat in Zip-Loc bag and cover with marinade, squeeze out the air and seal. Marinate minimum of 2 hours to overnight. Marinade reported to work well on everything from aardvark to zebra.

3 lb diced duck/goose breast (marinated)	3 cups brown rice
1/4 lb chopped bacon	9 cups water
1 large onion (chopped)	6 tsps beef boullion
1 can water chestnuts	½+ lbs button mushrooms (if you like mushrooms, add lots)

- Fry the chopped bacon in the dutch oven and saute the chopped onions. When the onions are nicely browned, add the water. Bring water to a boil and add the rice and boullion. Cover and cook rice, onion, water chestnuts and bacon at a "happy boil" for about ½ hour.
- Add the marinated meat (drained) and cook until tender, about ½ hour. Add mushrooms and cook until mushrooms are tender. Stir as necessary
- For a 12 inch dutch oven, start with 8 to 10 briquets on the bottom and 16 to 20 on top. It may take more during the frying and saute process. Check your heat frequently, the "happy boil" (not a rolling boil) is the target temperature.

EW MEMBERS: Welcome to the following new Club members : John Akers, Ellen & Daniel Kathren, Scott Turner, Antone Brooks, Terral Finger and Duane Woolum all from Kennewick; Wes Bryan from Richland, Shawn Sant from Prosser; Michael Kohlman from Seattle and John Arrabito from Lynnwood. They all joined at the Big Game Dinner.

TENT TRAILERS FOR SALE: Spring is here, Club members have two used tent trailers for sale:

- 1985 Columbia tent trailer. Has heater, two burner cooking stove and AC/DC converter. \$1500, call 943-7681
- 1982 Coleman 'Shenandoah' tent trailer with Add A Tent room. \$1800, call 582-5397.



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JUNE, 1997
Volume 52, No.6

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Dennis Spore, V Pres. (627-0589)
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MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - June 3, 1997, 7:00 PM - RR&GC HUNTER SAFETY FACILITY, BIG PASCO, E AINSWORTH AVE. MIDDLE OF WAREHOUSE 5, PASCO
BOARD MEETING - June 10, 1997, 7:00 PM - IT Corp., 1045 Jadwin, Richland
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - June 18, 1997, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009
ALLIED ARTS SHOW SALMON BOOTH AT HOWARD AMON PARK - JULY 25 & 26 (FRIDAY & Saturday)
RR&GC ANNUAL PICNIC - August 8, 1997 (Friday), Leslie Groves Park - Area #1 (By Horseshoe Pit)

JUNE GENERAL MEETING

The June General meeting will be held at the RR&GC Hunter Education Facility at Big Pasco. The facility is in the middle of Warehouse 5 on E Ainsworth Ave. E Ainsworth Ave can be accessed from 10th Ave. The Cable Bridge is on 10th Ave. and E Ainsworth is the second road to the right after you enter Pasco from the Cable Bridge. Continue on E Ainsworth until you are at the far end of Big Pasco. Warehouse 5 is on the left. The Facility is identified with a big sign on the front of the warehouse. The meeting will be about GPS (Global Positioning System) units. The basics of GPS units, how to use them and the different kinds available will be presented on video and discussed. There will be at least four GPS units at the meeting for us to use. If you own a GPS bring it to the meeting so that we can see the different kinds available. After the explanatory session we will retire outside of the Hunter Education Facility and have an opportunity to use one of the units and see how it works and what it can do. I know that we have all thought about purchasing a GPS unit and using it while fishing out of a boat or during hunting to keep from getting lost or locating our destination. This is your chance to learn all about them.

There will also be a very brief demonstration of the "Bait Shuttle", an equipment item that will carry your fishing lure/bait out to where you would like it to be on the water; the shuttle releases the lure when you tell it to and then it returns to you.

MAY GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

Kenneth Bevis, a biologist for the Yakama Indian Nation, gave an excellent presentation on "The Effect of Fire on a Forest Ecosystem" or *Fire and the Forest*. Kenneth's field of expertise is *Forest Dynamics*. He is a former teacher and his presentation technique was exceptional. He kept our attention through the entire presentation. He showed us many facts about "forest fires" that we were not aware of. He showed that "forest fires" may not be as harmful as a lot of us believed. The fires are part of the natural scheme of things and are in many cases necessary for the good health of a forest. He had many interesting slides.

Club member Bill Lambert was present at the McNary Hunt Area on April 12 and helped select the duck blind and goose pit locations for this fall. A total of 23 duck blinds and 9 goose pits were identified. There will be no duck blinds or goose pits immediately adjacent to the Highway. A new parking lot is being built on the refuge, just below the "handicapped

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Beehive also has some fair-sized rainbow carry-overs, plus eastern brook trout.

Bonaparte Lake, in Okanogan County about 18 miles northeast of Tonasket. The lake features kokanee, rainbow, lake trout and eastern brook trout. The U.S. Forest Service, Tonasket Ranger District, will host a derby on June 7, 9:30 - 2:00, at their universally-accessible fishing pier in the Bonaparte Lake campground. There will be T-shirts and goodie bags for kids (age 14 and under), plus prizes in two age categories for first fish, biggest fish and smallest fish. For more information, call Nancy Wells at the Tonasket Ranger District, (509) 486-5107.

Lake Chelan, at Chelan Riverwalk Park in downtown Chelan. The U.S. Forest Service (Wenatchee National Forest, Chelan Ranger District) and Lake Chelan Sportsman's Association will co-host a kid's fishing clinic on Saturday, June 7, from 9:00 - 2:00. The clinic will include basic fishing techniques for beginners, casting practice, angling safety and catch-and-release tips. Fishing is for planted rainbow trout and smallmouth bass. For more information, call Rick Acosta at the Chelan Ranger District, (509) 682-2576 or Phil Archibald at the Entiat Ranger District, (509) 784-1511.

Rock Island Ponds, in Douglas County, along Highway 28 in the town of Rock Island. Excellent bank access with a rough city boat launch; internal combustion engines are not allowed. Planted with catchable-size rainbow trout, the ponds also contain largemouth bass, bluegill and other warmwater game fish.

SOUTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON HOT SPOTS

Rotary Lake, located near Yakima, with walk-in access along the Greenway Trail. Rainbow, eastern brook and brown trout are stocked, and largemouth bass are available.

Fio Rito lakes, south of Ellensburg on I-82 at the Thrall exit. Excellent bank access surrounds these popular ponds. Rainbow and brown trout are stocked, with a special rainbow plant just before Free Fishing Weekend. Some sunfish and brown bullhead catfish are also caught. Small boats can be launched, but internal combustion engines are not allowed.

Clear Lake, in Yakima County along Highway 12, west of Rimrock Lake. Excellent bank access, boat launch, fishing docks and campgrounds. Fishing is for stocked rainbow trout, with a few eastern brook and bull trout also present. Please remember that all bull trout must be released.

WARMWATER FISHERY MEETING: - Rod Meseberg, of MarDon Resort, called Club President Paul Logman and informed him that there will be a meeting in Moses Lake at the Frontier Junior High school on Thursday June 12 at 7:00 PM. Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife representatives will be at the meeting to discuss what to do with the warmwater fishery stamp money. This is a very important meeting to make sure the funds go where they are supposed to go. Rod has asked for as big a showing as possible since our region will be heavily impacted by the Department's decisions.

duck blind". Hunters will be able to access either side of the slough from this parking lot. A work party is scheduled to put up posts and identification markers for the blinds/pits in June. More information about the work party is presented later in this *Bulletin*.

- The raffle prize was a \$50.00 Gift Certificate to BBM Sporting Goods. Lynn Logman won the gift certificate at the November/96 General meeting and returned it to the Club so that it could be raffled a second time. Winner of the \$50 gift certificate this time was Bill Lambert.

WASHINGTON STATE YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP: The Club is sponsoring 8 youth to this years Washington State Conservation Camp. One of the 8 youths is being sponsored in the name of the Yakima County Search & Rescue Squad in appreciation of the help they gave us in delivering, setting up and taking down the Lunker Lake pond that was used at the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show. Camp dates are July 13-19 for the girls and July 20-26 for the boys. A camper must be 12 years or older and not older than 16 years before the camp start date. In order to be eligible for sponsorship to the summer camp the youth's parent must be a Club member or the youth must be a Club member. Contact Larry Martin at 545-9647 to obtain a registration form. The applications will be accepted in the order received until the first 8 eligible applications are received. It will be the responsibility of the parents to transport the camper to and from Anacortes.

SIDEWALK ARTS SHOW SALMON BOOTH: The Sidewalk Arts Show at Howard Amon Park will be July 24 & 25 this year. The RR&GC and Columbia Basin Fly Casters will again sponsor a Salmon Booth. Set up of the booth and preparation of salmon "boats" etc will take place Thursday evening July 23 at the Fingernail at Howard Amon Park, 18 volunteers are needed starting at 6:00 pm. Nine to 10 volunteers are needed for each of the shifts that run from 9 am - 1 pm, 1 pm - 4 pm, 4 pm - 8 or 9 pm on Friday and Saturday. Retirees are especially needed for the first two shifts on Friday..Board members will be contacting you after the June General Meeting to determine what shift(s) you can work. If you know what days/shifts you can work please call Dennis Spore at 627-0589. If you have a "Food Servers Card" check its expiration date. If your card is expiring or you don't have one, you can obtain a current card at special test sessions that will held for Sidewalk Arts Show workers on Thursday June 26 and Tuesday July 8 at the Allied Arts Center, 89 Lee Blvd. (at the entrance to Howard Amon Park). Be there at 6:45 pm because testing begins at 7:00 pm and no one will be admitted late. The cards can also be obtained from the Benton Health Department by calling 582-7761 and scheduling an appointment. The Club will reimburse the cost of the card (\$8.00), if you request it. .

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - The following Hunter Education classes are scheduled in May at the RR&GC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco: (Maximum of 25 persons each) June 16, 17 & 19 & 23, 24 & 26 and at the Range on June 21. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

MCNARY REFUGE HUNT AREA WORK PARTY: At least ten volunteers are needed on Saturday June 14 to install sign posts and signs at the new duck and goose blind locations at the McNary Refuge hunt area. The volunteers should meet at the Refuge Headquarters at 7:00 am. Larry McGowan, Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Refuge will be at the refuge and be in charge of the work party. Be prepared to stay for most of the day. Bring post hole diggers and shovels..Bring your own lunch and drinking water. Come dressed for hard work. Wear a hat and gloves and bring sun screen and insect repellent. Call Bill Lambert, after 6:00 pm, at 628-2341 if you want to volunteer. There also will be a sign up sheet at the June General Meeting. This is your chance to learn where the blind locations are before the start of the season.

GUZZLER WORK PARTY: - Larry Martin - A total of 9 guzzlers were located, inspected and labeled with metal tags on Saturday May 10. The guzzlers were located above Prosser in the vicinity of the "overlook" off Highway 221. The workers were Mike Estes, Jerry and Laura Massey and Larry Martin.

INITIATIVE 676 - THE HANDGUN SAFETY ACT: Be on the alert! There is a new initiative in Washington State, it is Initiative 676 - The Handgun Safety Act. 'Stated' purpose of the Initiative is to:

- Promote safe use and safe storage of handguns
- Help prevent accidental injuries and deaths with trigger locks

According to the initiative, safety training will consist of one of the following:

- passing an 8-hour course covering safe operation, handling and storage of handguns;
- passing an examination showing knowledge of safe operation, handling and storage;
- receiving previous training in Washington State, or another state, or the armed forces that has been approved by the Department of Licensing (the same agency that issues drivers licenses).

The licenses will be available to all applicants who are at least 18 years of age, who have completed one of the three above

requirements, who have paid a fee of not more than \$25.00 and who are not otherwise ineligible to possess a handgun under federal, state or local law. Under the Handgun Safety Act, all handguns will be sold, *or transferred*, with trigger locking devices. If you transfer a handgun, you would be required to verify that the recipient holds a Handgun Safety License. The initiative is supported(sponsored?) by - League of Women Voters of Washington State, - Washington Ceasefire, - Washington State Nurses Association, - Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility, - Seattle Council, PTSA and Washington Association of Churches. Co chairs of the Initiative are Jean Gardner, Joel Pritchard and Tom Wales.

This Initiative is another attempt to eventually make it impossible/illegal for ordinary, law abiding citizens to possess a firearm(s). It will have no effect on criminals. The first step is to eliminate handguns, the next step is rifles and then shotguns. The complete text of the Initiative is scary. There are many half truths and untruths in the Initiative. For instance, the Initiative text starts out by stating that 'in recent years more people have been murdered by handguns in Washington State than in the entire countries of Canada and Great Britain', they do not mention that it is illegal to possess a handgun in Canada and next to impossible to possess one in Great Britain. Section 23 of the Initiative states: "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions..." Figure that one out! How will licenses and trigger locks preserve public peace, etc. and support the state government unless the \$25.00 fee goes to pay salaries for state government officials/employees. There are a lot provisions in the text that are essentially traps for the unwary firearms owner. For instance, you are required to have a Handgun Safety License even if you do not use handguns, but do possess/collect handguns; and I assume this also applies to antique black powder handguns. The Department of Licensing shall also make available to law enforcement and corrections agencies all information obtained during licensing. In other words, the same thing as gun registration. Law enforcement agencies will know which law abiding citizens have handguns. You can bet that criminals will not obtain licenses Please do not sign Initiative 676, if you are tempted to sign it, take the time to read the full text of the initiative and see the changes that will take place if the Initiative is passed. Urge your family and friends not to sign the initiative. We lost a lot when the "black bear and cougar hunting initiative was passed, we will loose a lot more if this initiative is passed.

RR&GC ANNUAL PICNIC - The annual picnic/salmon barbecue is scheduled for Friday August 8. More details will follow in later Bulletins. Make sure you mark this date on your calendar, this will be one event you don't want to miss.

HANFORD REACH SENATE COMMITTEE HEARINGS AT MATTAWA - Senate committee hearings, to help decide the future of the Hanford Reach are scheduled to be held on Saturday June 21 at Mattawa. Keep watching the *Tri-City Herald* for details about the meeting place and time(s). Be sure to attend this meeting if you care about the future of the Hanford Reach. Many Club officers and trustees will be there. It would help if the Club and the Tri-Cities has a strong representation at this meeting.

1997 WASHINGTON STATE FREE FISHING WEEKEND: - *This information was obtained from the Washington Dept. Of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) web page.* On Saturday and Sunday, June 7th and 8th, 1997, anglers can fish for free anywhere in Washington that is normally open to fishing. A steelhead license (\$18) and catch record card are still required for steelhead fishing, and catch record cards (free) are required to fish for salmon, sturgeon and halibut. All regular rules and limits apply. Free Fishing Weekend hot spots are fishing areas that are expected to provide good fishing opportunity. Many hot spots receive special plants of fish for this weekend, and some of them will have skilled anglers on hand to help the less experienced.

EASTERN WASHINGTON HOT SPOTS:

- Rainbow Lake, in Columbia County two miles south of Wooten Wildlife Area, on Tucannon Road. Good fishing for planted rainbow trout. The U.S. Forest Service, Pomeroy Ranger District, will host a derby here on Saturday, June 7. There will be casting contests, largest and smallest fish prizes, a litter pick-up bounty, plus free hot dogs and drinks. Area stores have registration forms, or register at the lake. For more information, call Megan Hines at the Pomeroy Ranger District, (509) 843-4690.

- South Skookum Lake, in Pend Oreille County six miles north of Usk, on Highway 31. Planted rainbow trout should provide good action. The U.S. Forest Service, Newport Ranger District, will host a kid's fishing clinic on Saturday, June 7 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. There will be tackle and other goodies for the kids, plus basic fishing instruction and casting practice. For more information, call Mike Herrin at the Newport Ranger District, (509) 447-7300.

- West Evans Pond, in Asotin County just west of Clarkston, along Highway 12. Good bank-fishing access, with planted rainbow trout. The U.S. Forest Service, Pomeroy Ranger District, will host a derby here on Sunday, June 8. Derby will be similar to that described above for Rainbow Lake.

- West Medical Lake, near the town of Medical Lake. Bank-fishing access on the west shore, and a resort with boat launch. Excellent fishing for rainbow trout.

COLUMBIA BASIN AREA HOT SPOTS

- Beehive Reservoir, in Chelan County seven miles southwest of Wenatchee. Stocked with catchable-size rainbow trout.

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JULY, 1997

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Paul Logman, Pres. (946-5596)
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Dennis Spore, V Pres. (627-0589)
Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - THERE ARE NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN JULY AND AUGUST
BOARD MEETING - July 8, 1997, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library
ALLIED ARTS SHOW SALMON BOOTH AT HOWARD AMON PARK - JULY 25 & 26 (FRIDAY & SATURDAY)
RR&GC ANNUAL PICNIC - August 8, 1997 (Friday), Leslie Groves Park - Area #1 (By Horseshoe Pit)
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - July 23, 1997, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

JULY GENERAL MEETING

Please note, there will be no General Meeting in July. We will all be working through the month of July preparing for the Allied Arts Show Salmon Booth at Howard Amon Park on July 24*, 25 and 26. Be sure to volunteer when you are called to help. See you all there. *(Salmon fillets will be prepared and booth set up on July 24 at 6:00 PM.)

JUNE GENERAL MEETING REPORT:

- The meeting was brought to order and chaired by Vice President Dennis Spore at the RR&GC Hunter Education Facility at Big Pasco.
- First speaker of the evening was Dave Palmer of Palm Leaf Products, Inc. located in Richland. Dave described and demonstrated the *Bait Shuttle*, a compact motorized device that transports your fishing line and baited hook across the water to the site you want to fish. It drops the baited hook at your command and then returns for the next set up. The body of the *Bait shuttle* is made of plastic and is 18" by 6" and powered by 4 D cell batteries. It can also be used, with a special attachment, to retrieve ducks. Cost of the unit is \$49.95 through June and \$59.95 after June. Dave donated a bait shuttle that will be the raffle prize at the next General meeting. To obtain a catalogue or more information about the *Bait Shuttle* call toll free 1-888-224-8347. You can also visit their Internet website at [http:// www.baitshuttle.com](http://www.baitshuttle.com). It is a very ingenious device that might prove very useful, depending on the type of fishing you do.
- Main speaker was Gene VanLiew who did an exceptional job describing GPS units. It was very obvious that Gene spent a lot of time researching the units. He described how the units worked and what they can do. He also described the various units available and where to buy them. He was able to obtain 50 copies of the 1997 Magellan Products catalogue that he distributed at the meeting along with many other handouts. If you are thinking of buying a GPS you should have been at the meeting. Gene will probably have the information available at the September General Meeting. If you need the information before then, give Gene a call. He asked that I list the following toll-free telephone numbers of various GPS manufacturers/suppliers. Call these numbers and request a catalogue/information from them if you are interested. [Garmin - 1-800-800-1020], [Magellan Systems Corporation - 1-800-669-4477], [Trimble - 1-800-827-8000], [Eagle Electronics - 1-800-324-1354], and [West Marine - 1-800-538-0775 (West Marine carries and sells all brands of GPS units)].

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Richland Rod & Gun Club
P.O. Box 337
Richland, WA 99352-0337

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1997 HUNTING LICENSE FEES:

Licenses	Resident	Non-Res.
Hunting license	\$15.00	\$150.00
Upland bird permit (Eastern WA)		
Full season	\$10.00	\$10.00
Pheasant Enhancement Stamp (Eastern WA)	\$10.00	\$10.00
Upland bird permit (Western WA)		
Westside full season	\$35.00	\$35.00
Westside juvenile (14 & under)	\$20.00	\$20.00
Westside 2-day option	\$20.00	\$20.00
Migratory waterfowl stamp (state)	\$6.00	\$6.00

PHEASANT ENHANCEMENT STAMP

A new stamp (in addition to the Eastern Washington Upland Bird Permit) will be required of eastern Washington pheasant hunters beginning in September 1997. The stamp was authorized by the 1997 Legislature to be dedicated for improving pheasant hunting in eastern Washington. Most of the funds are earmarked for purchasing pheasants for release on public lands. Funds will also be available for habitat enhancement grants to state and federal agencies as well as private organizations. For additional information contact the Wildlife Management Program at (360) 902-2515.

- Winner of the raffle for the \$50 gift Certificate to Phil’s Sporting Goods was John Hall.

WASHINGTON STATE YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP: The Club is sponsoring 8 youth to this years Washington State Conservation Camp. All of the openings have not been filled, there are still some openings. Camp dates are July 13-19 for the girls and July 20-26 for the boys. A camper must be 12 years or older and not older than 16 years before the camp start date. In order to be eligible for sponsorship to the summer camp the youth's parent must be a Club member or the youth must be a Club member. Contact Larry Martin at 545-9647, as soon as possible to obtain a registration form, time is running short. The applications will be accepted in the order received until the first 8 eligible applications are received. It will be the responsibility of the parents to transport the camper to and from Anacortes.

SIDEWALK ARTS SHOW SALMON BOOTH:

- The Sidewalk Arts Show at Howard Amon Park will be July 25 & 26 this year. The RR&GC and Columbia Basin Fly Casters will again sponsor a Salmon Booth, this year the booth will be in the name of the Fly Casters. Set up of the booth and preparation of salmon "boats" etc will take place Thursday evening July 24 at the Fingernail at Howard Amon Park, 18 volunteers are needed starting at 6:00 pm. Nine to 10 volunteers are needed for each of the shifts that run from 9 am - 1 pm, 1 pm - 4 pm, 4 pm - 8 or 9 pm on Friday and Saturday. Retirees are especially needed for the first two shifts on Friday..Most of you probably have been contacted by a Board member to determine what shift(s) you can work. If you haven’t been contacted by a Board member and you wish to volunteer, please call Dennis Spore at 627-0589.
- If you have a "Food Servers Card" check its expiration date. If your card is expiring or you don't have one, you can obtain a current card at special test sessions that will be held for Sidewalk Arts Show workers on Thursday June 26 and Tuesday July 8 at the Allied Arts Center, 89 Lee Blvd. (at the entrance to Howard Amon Park). Be there at 6:45 pm because testing begins at 7:00 pm and no one will be admitted late. The cards can also be obtained from the Benton Health Department by calling 582-7761 and scheduling an appointment. The Club will reimburse the cost of the card (\$8.00), if you request it. .

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - The following Hunter Education classes are scheduled in July at the RR&GC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco: (Maximum of 25 persons each) July 14, 15 & 17; & 21, 22 & 24 and at the Range on July 19. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

M McNARY REFUGE HUNT AREA WORK PARTY: Six volunteers showed up at the McNary Refuge at Burbank on June 14 to install duck blind posts/markers at 23 sites. Larry McGowan, Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Refuge and Steve Legnard, a summer student/employee, from the Umatilla Refuge supervised installation. It was a hard working crew and installation was completed and they were back at the Refuge headquarters and on the way home by 11:30 AM. The new blinds are spaced about twice as far apart as the old blinds and hunting success should increase because of less interference and competition from adjoining blinds. The volunteers were: Russel Wyer, Larry Martin, John Pfeiffer, Ben Holton, Eddie Manthos, and Bill Lambert. Bill Lambert did an exceptional job organizing the volunteers; he even supplied cinnamon rolls and coffee. There will be another work party, just before the waterfowl season, to put up posts/markers at the locations of the goose pits. We will make an announcement as soon as the work party date is set.

RR&GC ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC: The Club’s annual salmon barbecue and picnic will be held on **Friday** Aug 8, starting at 6:00 PM, at the South Leslie G roves Park Gazebo next to the horseshoe pit and swimming beach. For \$3.00 per person (\$1.00 for children 12 and under) the Club will provide Alder Smoked Salmon, beverages, bread and condiments such as tartar sauce, lemon juice, butter etc. Attendees/each family should bring a potluck dish to share and serving utensils for their dish. If your family name starts with A through K, please bring a dessert dish to share; if your name begins with L through Z bring a salad dish. Bring your own utensils, including plates, also bring chairs tables, blankets etc. in case there are not enough picnic tables. The park has a children’s play area, rest rooms, shade trees and a wading pool. Directions to the picnic are: From George Washington Way, turn east(towards the river)on Newcomer Ave. Continue to Harris Ave. Turn left at the “T” onto Harris and continue to Park St. (About one block). Turn right onto Park St. and follow it to the parking lot for South Leslie Groves Park.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING NIGHT CHANGE: For the last two years the Club Board of Trustees has been meeting on the second Tuesday of the month. At the last board meeting, in June, the Board unanimously voted to change the meeting night to the third Tuesday of the month, starting in September. The Board meetings in July and August will be held on the second Tuesday of the month.

SUMMARY OF SELECTED 1997 SMALL GAME SEASONS IN EASTERN WASHINGTON (From WDFW Web Page):

SPECIES	AREA	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Pheasant	Eastern WA	Noon, Oct 11-Dec 31 1997	3 (cocks only)	15 (cocks only)
Quail (Valley, Bobwhite)	Eastern WA	Noon, Oct 11, 1997-Jan 11, 1998	10 valley or bobwhite	30 valley or bobwhite
Partridge (Chukar & Gray)	Eastern WA	Oct 1, 1997-Jan 11, 1998	6 chukar & 6 gray	18 chukar & 18 gray
Forest Grouse (Blue, Ruffed, and Spruce)	Statewide	Sept 1-Dec 31, 1997	3 of any species	9 of any species
Turkey	Statewide	April 15-May 15 ©	1 (d)	3 (d)
Turkey	Asotin, Columbia, Garfield, & Walla Walla counties	Nov 27-Dec 1, 1997 (AHE Graduates Only)	1 (d) either sex	(d) either sex
Turkey	Klickitat & Skamania counties	Nov 27-Dec 1, 1997	1 (d) either sex	(d) either sex
Mourning Dove	Statewide	Sept 1-15, 1997	10	20
Cottontail, Snowshoe Hare, & Jackrabbit	Statewide	Sept 1, 1997-Mar 15, 1998	5	15
Canada Goose (early season)	Statewide except Clark, Cowlitz, Pacific, & Wahkiakum counties (e)	Sept 6 - 12 , 1997	3	6
.Crows	Statewide	Oct 1, 1997-Jan 31, 1998	no limit	no limit

- (c) Gobblers and Turkeys with visible beards only.
- (d) Bag and possession limits: One turkey per day with a total of three per year; only one turkey from each subspecies may be killed.
- (e) No special authorization required; SW Wash. Season pending Fish and Wildlife Commission action Aug 9, 1997

Pheasant, quail, partridge, mourning dove, Canada goose (Sept.), and turkey hunting hours are one half hour before sunrise to sunset, except: pheasant and quail hunting hours are 8:00 am to 4:00 pm in western Washington and noon on opening day (Oct 11, 1997) for pheasants and quail in eastern Washington.

HUNTING RESTRICTIONS GENERAL: Hunting is closed in GMU 522

SMALL GAME: A small game hunting pamphlet will be available in early September which will contain the migratory bird seasons established by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission during their August 9 meeting.

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attention focused in recent months on the impact of the region's hydroelectric dams on wild salmon runs, the proportion of respondents who cited dams as a major culprit decreased during the past three years.)

• The Elway poll also found that even though a majority of people expect the price to recover depleted salmon runs will be high, they are willing to help pay. Seventy-five percent said they would be willing to pay higher electric bills if they thought it would restore wild salmon runs. King County respondents were willing to pay both higher taxes (59%) and higher electric bills (83%) for salmon restoration. In eastern Washington, 52% of the respondents were opposed to higher taxes to pay for salmon recovery. However, 65% of eastern Washington respondents said they would pay higher electric rates. By a margin of 53 percent to 35 percent, people said environmental considerations were more important than economic considerations in salmon recovery. More respondents said "abundance" of salmon was more important than "wild salmon" -- 47 percent to 38 percent. And, an interesting note regarding hatcheries -- 57 percent said "wild salmon" is a higher priority compared to 40 percent who said hatcheries. The survey of 405 voters was conducted May 16 and 17 by telephone. The overall margin of sampling error is plus or minus 5 percent.

NEAH BAY CHINOOK CLOSURE: (July 22, 1997 WDFW News Release)

OLYMPIA -- The National Marine Fisheries Service and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife announced closure of the recreational salmon fishery in the Neah Bay area (management area 4), effective 11:59 pm Wednesday, July 23. The fishery opened on Monday, July 21, under a catch quota of only 550 chinook salmon. Participation in the fishery was high and Department of Fish and Wildlife staff estimated the daily catch rate to be approximately 200 chinook. Strict chinook salmon catch quotas were applied to all commercial and recreational fisheries for the 1997 season, in response to the critical condition of several chinook salmon stocks that migrate along the Washington coast. The salmon fishery will be re-opened at Neah Bay

in waters east of the Bonilla- Tatoosh line, from August 1 through August 29, when anglers will be allowed to catch pink salmon, but all chinook and coho must be released. Coho salmon and pink salmon may be taken on August 30 and 31, but chinook salmon must be released. The same area will be open for special catch-and-release only regulations from September 1 through September 14. Other ocean fishing areas adjacent to the Washington ports of LaPush and Westport and in the Columbia River area remain opened for all salmon species, with minimum size limits of 24 inches for chinook and 16 inches for coho. The daily bag limit in these areas is two salmon, except that in Marine Area 2- Westport-Ocean Shores, the daily bag is two salmon but not more than one may be a chinook salmon. Note that the Area 2 bag limit has been changed from the Department of Fish and Wildlife recreational fishing pamphlet "Fishing in Washington."



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

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99352

I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY DEFEND FROM WASTE THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY; ITS AIR, SOILS AND MINERALS; ITS FORESTS, WATERS, AND WILDLIFE. I WILL HELP EDUCATE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO BE RESPONSIBLE CARETAKERS OF THE RESOURCES OF AMERICA.

AUGUST, 1997

Volume 52, No. 8

1997 Officers

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Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

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Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - ~~THERE IS~~ NO GENERAL MEETING IN AUGUST

BOARD MEETING - August 12, 1997, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library

RR&GC ANNUAL PICNIC - August 8, 1997 (Friday), Leslie Groves Park - Area #1 (By Horseshoe Pit) 6:00 PM

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - Aug. 21, 1997, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

AUGUST GENERAL MEETING

Please note, there will be no General Meeting in August.

WASHINGTON STATE YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP: Four youth, three girls and one boy, applied and were accepted to attend the Washington State Youth Conservation Camp at Orcas Island. The three girls, Jessica Derrick, Andrea Manthos and Heidi Anthony attended camp July 13-19, Jordan Case, the only boy applicant, attended July 20-26. Andrea Manthos was sponsored in the name of the Yakima County Sheriff Search and Rescue Squad in appreciation for them providing, delivering and helping us set up and take down the Lunker Lake Pond at the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show at the TRAC in January of this year.

Money earned at Lunker Lake was used to pay the camp fees for the four youth..

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - The following Hunter Education classes are scheduled in August at the RR&GC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco: (Maximum of 25 persons each) August 4, 5 & 7; & 11, 12 & 14 and at the Range on August 9. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

RR&GC ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC: The Club's annual salmon barbecue and picnic will be held on **Friday** Aug 8, starting at 6:00 PM, at the South Leslie Groves Park Gazebo next to the horseshoe pit and swimming beach. For \$3.00 per person (\$1.00 for children 12 and under) the Club will provide Alder Smoked Salmon, beverages, bread and condiments such as tartar sauce, lemon juice, butter etc. Attendees/each family should bring a potluck dish to share and serving utensils for their dish. If your family name starts with A through K, please bring a dessert dish to share; if your name begins with L through Z bring a salad dish. Bring your own utensils, including plates, also bring chairs tables, blankets etc. in case there are not enough picnic tables. The park has a children's play area, rest rooms, shade trees and a wading pool. Directions to the picnic are: From George Washington Way, turn east (towards the river) on Newcomer Ave. Continue to Harris Ave. Turn left at the "T" onto Harris and continue to Park St. (About one block). Turn right onto Park St. and follow it to the parking lot for South Leslie Groves Park.

AUGUST 8 & 9 FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING IN RICHLAND: The Washington State Fish & Wildlife Commission will be meeting at the DoubleTree Inn in Richland on August 8 & 9 (Friday & Saturday). The meeting agenda is: Public Input and Adoption of - 1997 - 98 migratory waterfowl seasons - 1997 - 99 trapping seasons - proposed candidate species and Approval of 1997 - 98 Lowland Lake Rehabilitation Proposal. The exact times and schedule for the meetings are not known at this time (according to a July 17 article in the *Tri-City Herald*, the waterfowl season will be discussed on Saturday August 9). Chances are the dates and times will be announced in the *Tri-City Herald* prior to the meetings. The commissioners have been invited to attend the Club picnic (on Aug. 8), and it appears that they will attend. This will be a chance for you to meet the commissioners.

STATEWIDE EARLY CANADA GOOSE HUNT: The early Canada Goose season will take place Sept 6-12 statewide except for Clark, Cowlitz, Pacific and Wahkiakum counties, if the Commission approves the season at their meeting on August 9. Tentative bag limits are 3 Canadian Geese with the possession limit being 6 Canada Geese. According to an article in the *Tri-City Herald* on July 17, Whitcomb Island and the Ridge Unit on the Umatilla National Wildlife Unit will be open for early goose hunting only. Besides a state hunting license you will need both a state and a federal waterfowl stamp to hunt in the early goose hunt.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to the following new members: Debra and Larry J. McKenzie of Richland and Steve Anthony of Kennewick.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING NIGHT CHANGE: For the last two years the Club Board of Trustees has been meeting on the second Tuesday of the month. At the last board meeting, in June, the Board unanimously voted to change the meeting night to the third Tuesday of the month, starting in September. The Board meeting in August will be held on the second Tuesday of the month, August 12 at the Richland Public Library.

MILLIONS OF AMERICANS ENJOY WILDLIFE-RELATED RECREATION, PUMPING BILLIONS INTO NATIONAL ECONOMY, SURVEY SHOWS: (U.S. FWS News Release)

- Fishing, hunting, bird watching and other wildlife-related recreation continue to be a cornerstone of the American way of life, as 77 million adults enjoyed some form of wildlife-related recreation in 1996, according to a nationwide survey sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

- The preliminary results of the 1996 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation also showed that wildlife remains a remarkable engine for economic growth and job creation. Americans spent \$104 billion on wildlife-related recreation during the year, representing 1.4 percent of the national economy. By comparison, Americans spent \$81 billion on new cars during the year. "Americans cherish wildlife," said Service Acting Director John Rogers. "We like to fish. We like to hunt. We like to take a pair of binoculars out into the woods and simply watch birds and other wild creatures. Enjoying wildlife is part of our American heritage. It is also an important contributor to our national economy, supporting hundreds of thousands of jobs." The preliminary results showed that more than 39 million Americans, 16 and older, either hunted or fished in 1996 while 63 million enjoyed watching wildlife. In all, 40 percent of the adult population enjoyed some form of wildlife-related recreation. Here are brief summaries of three major activities measured by the survey: fishing, hunting, and wildlife watching.

- **Fishing:** Fishing continues to be one of America's favorite pastimes. In 1996, 35.2 million people, 16 years and older, fished, or 18 percent of the adult population. To do so, they spent \$38.1 billion, or \$1,080 each on average, during the year. This compares with 35.6 million anglers and \$27.6 billion in expenditures in 1991. Significantly, the number of days anglers fished during 1996 rose 22 percent over 1991 to 624 million. More than 80 percent of fishing was in freshwater.

- **Hunting:** Fourteen million people, 16 years and older, hunted in 1996, compared with 14.1 million in 1991. Even as the number of hunters remained stable, the total number of days they spent hunting rose 8 percent in 1996 to 256 million. Expenditures rose even more dramatically, up 47 percent to \$20.9 billion. Hunters spent \$1,492 each on average for the year. The largest number of hunters, 11.3 million, sought big game, while 6.9 million hunted small game and 3 million hunted migratory birds.

- **Wildlife Watching:** Nearly 63 million Americans, 16 years and older, reported observing, photographing or feeding wildlife in 1996. This was 17 percent fewer people than reported in 1991. Nevertheless, expenditures on these activities rose 27 percent. Wildlife watchers spent \$31 billion in 1996. Feeding birds and other wildlife was by far the most popular activity, with 54.1 million participants.

- The survey, which has been conducted every five years since 1955, was done for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by the Census Bureau. As part of the survey, the Census Bureau initially screened 80,000 households. From this, the bureau chose 28,000 sportsmen and -women and 14,400 nonconsumptive participants' 16 years and older, for detailed surveys throughout the year.

The final national report will be available in November. State-by-state reports will be released from November through March 1998.

ANNUAL SURVEY FINDS DUCK BREEDING POPULATIONS ROSE SHARPLY THIS SPRING: (U.S. FWS News Release)

The number of breeding ducks rose 13 percent to 42.6 million, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's annual breeding duck survey of key nesting areas. This marks the highest level since the survey began in 1955. Breeding populations of mallards climbed 25 percent to 9.9 million, and two species that have been in decline in recent years, American wigeon and northern pintail, rebounded in 1997.

Wigeon was up 37 percent to 3.1 million while pintail rose 30 percent to 3.6 million. However, despite the improvements in pintail numbers, the 1997 level was still 19 percent below the long-term average. "We continue to have favorable weather conditions that, combined with the millions of acres of wetlands restored in the past decade, have boosted duck populations," said the Service's Acting Director John Rogers. "We should, however, keep in mind that these numbers are coming after an unusually long stretch of favorable weather conditions, and that we need to press on in our conservation efforts in preparation for another dry cycle." "Most species are currently above the numerical goals of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, but those goals are based upon average environmental conditions. The four to five years of above-average pond numbers in the survey area is unprecedented. We clearly are experiencing above average conditions," Rogers said.

The breeding duck survey samples 1.3 million square miles across the north-central United States, western and northern Canada, and Alaska and estimates the approximate numbers of ducks in important breeding areas. Among other duck species, the breeding population of gadwalls rose 31 percent to 3.9 million and northern shovelers were up 19 percent to 4.1 million. The numbers of canvasback, blue-winged teal, green-winged teal, redheads and scaup remained similar to last year. The Service is concerned about the continued lack of improvement in scaup, which are 25 percent below long-term averages.

Results in the eastern survey area show that duck breeding populations were similar to 1996. The recently developed survey includes the eastern provinces and northeastern states and is a part of the Service's efforts to expand the surveys outside the traditional area. "We shouldn't automatically assume that increases in duck populations will lead to more success in the field for hunters," Rogers said. "A lot of other factors influence hunting success including weather and the amount of available habitat. "Harvest survey results show that 1996 was even better than 1995. Nationally, the number of ducks harvested was 13.9 million in 1996. This compares with 12.9 million in 1995, a 7 percent increase. For mallards, hunters harvested 4.9 million ducks compared with 4.4 million in 1995.

Goose harvest also was up. Last year, hunters took 2.9 million geese, compared with 2.4 million in 1995. "We have come a long way since 1990 when drought, agricultural practices and predation reduced the breeding population to one of the lowest on record at 25.1 million," Rogers said. "Since then, the breeding population has grown by nearly 70 percent. "Hunting success has increased as well. In 1990, hunters harvested 6.2 million ducks, or an average of 5.5 per hunter. Last year, hunters more than doubled that harvest to 13.9 million ducks, or 10 per hunter.

NEW PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY ON SALMON ISSUES: (A WDFW news release)

The past five years, Seattle-based Elway Research, Inc., has attempted to track statewide public attitudes on Columbia River salmon recovery. In its May newsletter, the firm reported its latest findings. Stuart Elway's analysis of the survey was that voters are aware of the salmon issue but the vast majority has not thought it through to any significant degree. One indicator of that is the large number of people who blame over-fishing for the problem. The poll asked respondents two major questions. One question, which was open-ended, asked people what they believed were the major reasons for the depletion of the region's salmon runs. The other question was more specific, asking respondents which of the "four H's" (habitat destruction, harvest, hydro-electric dams or hatchery practices) has the most harmful effect on salmon runs.

- According to the poll, a clear majority of people believe fishing is the major reason for the depletion in the Northwest's salmon runs. Nearly two-thirds of the survey respondents volunteered some sort of fishing practice as an answer, led by over fishing (31%); tribal fishing (13%); gill netting (8%); commercial fishing (5%); illegal fishing (5%); and sport fishing (1%).

- After fishing, habitat loss was cited by the largest number of people as a reason why the region's salmon runs are in trouble. Thirty-two percent cited habitat loss, including over building and over logging. Fishing and habitat loss were followed by dams (29%); pollution (26%); mismanagement (10%); and other (16%) as reasons for salmon depletion. It is interesting to note that compared to 1994 (the last year Elway Research conducted its salmon poll), habitat loss increased in the public's mind as a reason why the Northwest's salmon runs have been depleted (13% in 1994 compared to 32% in 1997). Additionally, 12% of the respondents in the most recent poll voluntarily cited development and over building as reasons for the depletion of salmon. In 1994, no respondent cited either as reasons.

- When respondents were asked the second, more specific question -- which of the "four H's" is most harmful to salmon runs -- habitat destruction ranked took top billing (45%). That was followed by harvest (29%); dams (14%); hatcheries (2%); and other (10%). In 1994, harvest was ranked first by respondents as the most harmful to salmon runs (33%), followed by habitat destruction (29%); dams (22%); hatcheries (3%); and other (13%). (Note that despite the increasing media and other

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traps in all dry land sets not capable of killing the animal, and reduce the trap-check time from every 72 hours to every 48 hours; and returned to a spring time period for adoption of fall game hunting seasons and rules to better use more complete field data and to promote better public involvement in the season-setting process

STREAMLINING, AUTOMATION PROPOSED FOR FISHING AND HUNTING LICENSES: (from WDFW Webpage)
Buying a state hunting or fishing license could be a simpler process by 1999 under proposals being considered by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and now up for public review. The department is considering two ways of streamlining license buying simplifying the license structure and eventually automating the license system. Three alternative fishing license simplification packages are being considered:

- A basic license package with enhancement fees for premium species such as salmon and steel head.
- Flat rate licenses for freshwater and saltwater fishing with pro-rated enhancement fees incorporated into the license.
- Saltwater licenses that include the full Puget Sound enhancement fee and freshwater licenses that include the full warmwater enhancement fee and individual species fees. Currently, fish licenses are divided into food fish or game fish categories with an additional system of catch record cards and enhancement fees which vary by fish species and location. The current system requires fishers to know and declare in advance the species they will catch in order to purchase the appropriate documents.
- A similar effort is being made to repackage hunting licenses into a streamlined format. The alternative hunting packages include a separation between big game and small game species and also allow for more bear and cougar hunting opportunities.

The automation proposal, dubbed Washington Integrated License Database (WILD), could result in a computerized licensing system with credit card-size licenses. The WILD card would bear basic identification information and provide a recreational user number that could access a data base with a cardholder's current license information. Catch record cards and transport tags also are being reviewed for simplification. The department is seeking public comment on the automation and license structure simplification proposals. Members of the public who wish to review and participate in these surveys should send a request in writing by Sept. 15 to Maria Hug, Automated Sportsmen's Database System (ASDS) Project Leader, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, 600 Capitol Way N., Olympia, WA 98501-1091 or call (360) 902-2433.



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SEPTEMBER, 1997

Volume 52, No. 9

1997 Officers

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Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Dennis Spore, V Pres. (627-0589)
Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday September 2, 1997, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library
BOARD MEETING - Tuesday September 16, 1997, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - September 25, 1997, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The first general meeting, after the summer break, will be held at the Richland Public Library at 7:00 PM, on Tuesday September 2. The main speaker will be Ron Knapp who will discuss Falconry. Ron will have three birds that he will show, not all at once. He will discuss all the various aspects of falconry, including training and hunting. The four youth, Jessica Derrick, Andrea Manthos, Heidi Anthony and Jordan Case, who attended the Washington State Youth Conservation Camp at Orcas Island this summer will be at the meeting to share their experiences with us. The raffle prize will be a *Bait Shuttle* that was donated Dave Palmer of Palm Leaf Products at the June General Meeting. This should be a very good meeting, be sure to attend.

SALMON BOOTH 1997: Dale Schielke & Howard Gardner - Thanks to a great group of volunteers, the Salmon Booth at the Sidewalk Arts Show on July 25 & 26 was a success. The net profit will result in approximately \$2,900 for each club to use in the coming years activities. The following listing of those participating in the booth includes members of our Club and the Columbia Basin Flycasters: John Pfeiffer, Mike Schmitz, Richard McDonnell, Gene Woodruff, Steve Smith, Bill Shaffer, Sid Daughtridge, Larry Martin, Bob Lyness, Eddie & Nancy Manthos, Dave & Carol Myers, Wes Bryan, Russ & Leila Brown, Mark Freshley, Dick Nicklas, Bill Dean, Larry & Brenda Chapman, Don Rude, Bob Hinkle, Jim Saunders, Erik Fullgrabe, Bill Davis, Rocky Ross, Bill Stinson, Lou Ann & Karen Schielke, Jerry Caprio, Dale Landon, Mike Estes, Dennis Kreid, Dennis Spore, Jim Martin, Marv Clement, Kathleen Probasco, Bob Henke, Rusty and Leslie Morlan, Wally & Mary Sheely, Dick Nightengale, Walt Allen, Craig Bennett, Dave Thonn, Clare Cranston, Ray Lloyd, Larry Wordon, Ted & Barbara Deobold, Robert Dillon, Carl Stull, Ev Weakley, Bob Zinsli, Gordon Hanson, Charlie Morbeck, Pierrick Boulard, Richard McFall, Don McNeilly, Bruce Cornwell, Janice Hampton-Case, Jim Choate, Sharon Taff, Bob Brown and Paul & Lynn Logman. A special thanks to Bob Hinkle for three shifts of cooking salmon and to Dennis Spore for compiling the names of all the RR&GC volunteers. If we left out any names, forgive us, it wasn't intentional. (An extra special thanks to Dale Schielke and Howard Gardner for organizing the event and ordering, purchasing and delivering the myriad of items that were used.)

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - The following Hunter Education classes are scheduled in September at the RR&GC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco: (Maximum of 25 persons each) September 8, 9 & 11; & 15, 16 & 18 and at the Range on September 13. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through

Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

RR&GC HUNTER SAFETY GRADUATES HONORED BY CONNELL GUN CLUB: - Clare Cranston - Fourteen graduates of the Club's Hunter Safety program will be honored by the Connell Gun Club on Saturday August 23. The top two graduates of each months classes thus far this year have been invited to be guests of the Connell Gun Club at their shotgun range. Each of the students will be able to shoot two rounds (25 shells/round) of skeet or trap. One of the Connell club's members is picking up almost all of the expenses for the shoot. Congratulations to the graduates and Thank You Very Much! to the Connell Gun Club.

RR&GC ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC: The Club's annual salmon barbecue and picnic was held on Friday Aug 8. The weather was great, about 60 members and family attended. Ten guests, attending the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting in Richland, also joined us. Among those attending were Bern Shanks, Director of the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Lisa Pelly, Chair of the Commission. Thanks to Howard Gardner and Gerry Zeitler who prepared the salmon and Dennis Spore who served it, the salmon was delicious. The pot luck dishes brought by Club members rounded out the picnic and made it a great success. Our guests commented on how good the food was.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING NIGHT CHANGE: Attention all trustees, the Board meeting has been changed to the third Tuesday of the month! This months meeting is on September 16 at the Richland Public Library at 7:00 PM.

MEMBER INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE: - Occasionally the Club receives information that could be of interest to members. If we knew your specific interests, we could make the information available to you. An example is the McNary Hunt Permit Application. We received copies of the application after the monthly Club Bulletin was mailed. We informed as many members that we knew were duck hunters and asked them if they needed an application. I am sure that we probably missed some duck hunters (fortunately the *Tri-City Herald* had information about the application and how to obtain one). Please fill out the following questionnaire, enter your E-Mail address if you have one, place an X in the box(s) that apply to you, and bring it to the next General Meeting or mail it to the address shown on the first page of this bulletin. We will then enter the information into a database and use it when we need to get information out to members with specific interests.

Name:	Phone:#	E-Mail Address:
<input type="checkbox"/> BIG GAME	<input type="checkbox"/> HUNTING DOG	<input type="checkbox"/> FISH, SALTWATER
<input type="checkbox"/> UPLAND BIRD	<input type="checkbox"/> FISH, WARMWATER	<input type="checkbox"/> FISH, SALTWATER, SALMON
<input type="checkbox"/> WATERFOWL	<input type="checkbox"/> FISH, TROUT	<input type="checkbox"/> FISH, FRESHWATER, SALMON
<input type="checkbox"/> VARMINT	<input type="checkbox"/> FISH, STEELHEAD	<input type="checkbox"/> TRAPPING
<input type="checkbox"/> MUZZLE LOADER	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	

MCNARY WATERFOWL HUNT PERMITS: Waterfowl hunt permit applications for the McNary Wildlife Refuge need to be submitted prior to September 3. Applications postmarked later than September 2 will not be accepted. The Club received some applications early in August. They were distributed at the Club picnic on August 8 and we made applications available to as many duck hunters as we could contact. We still have some applications available. Call Eddie Manthos at 586-6009 if you need one. You can also pick them up at the refuge headquarters at 500 Maple St. in Burbank, 547-4942.

QUALITY HUNT TRIP APPROVED BY BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Steve Wray, this years winner of the Quality Hunt presented the hunt plans to the Board of Trustees at their August meeting. The trip was unanimously approved by the Board. Steve and Mike Estes will be hunting mountain sheep and mountain goats later this year in Hawaii. Good Luck!

HUNTING SEASON RULES MODIFIED: Several rules and locations for the upcoming archery and muzzleloader deer and elk hunting seasons, which open Sept. 1 in most areas of the state, have been modified since the state's 1997 hunting regulation pamphlet was issued earlier this year. Most of the changes were adopted last April by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission to protect deer and elk populations which were affected by last winter's severe weather. The modifications include:

- Archery hunting for mule deer and blacktail deer (Sept. 1 - 30) in all open 100, 200 and 300 game management units (GMUs) is restricted to three- point minimum antlered bucks, except in GMUs 130, 133, 139, 142, 145, 149, 163, 178, 248, 254, 166, 169, 172, 184, 306 and 308. Either three- point minimum buck or antlerless deer may be taken from Sept. 6 - 15.

- Late archery deer season (Nov. 26 - Dec. 8) in 200 and 300 GMUs is open for three-point minimum mule and blacktail deer. The exception is in GMU 272 where hunting is allowed for three-point minimum or antlerless blacktail or mule deer or any whitetail deer.
- Early season (Oct. 4-10) muzzleloader hunting in 400, 500 and 600 GMUs is for bucks only. Late muzzleloader hunting (Nov. 26-Dec. 15) will be allowed for antlerless deer in GMU 136. GMU 130 has been added to the list of locations where late muzzleloading hunting is allowed for three-point minimum or antlerless whitetail deer.
- In addition to the modifications, hunters should also be aware that the early archery season (Sept. 1-14) for spike-only or antlerless elk in GMU 554 (Yale) was inadvertently omitted from the hunting rules pamphlet. Hunters should refer to the pamphlet for other details about hunting rules and seasons. *(This information was obtained from the WDFW Webpage.)*

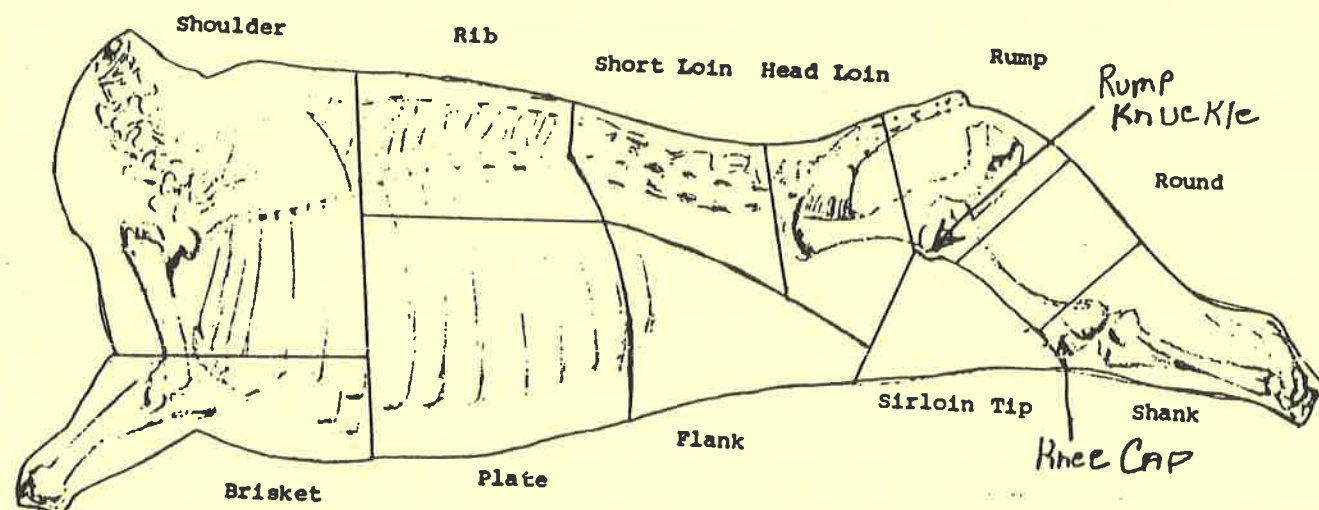
EARLY GOOSE HUNT: *(from WDFW Webpage)* - A new Canada goose hunting season has been scheduled across the state from Sept. 6 through 12. To accommodate the new season and comply with federal limits on the number of hunting days, the September Canada goose hunting season has been shortened by eight days in southwest Washington, including Clark, Cowlitz, Pacific, and Wahkiakum counties. Formerly the southwest Washington goose season was Sept. 1 to 15. The season was shortened to allow additional days for late Canada goose hunting in southwest Washington to help landowners control damage from increasing numbers of geese in the area. Under federal guidelines, the state can set goose hunting seasons for a maximum of 107 days between Sept. 1 and March 10. A total of 100 days were allocated to the November to March season, leaving seven days for the September hunt. The statewide September goose season was approved last December by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission. The shortened southwest Washington September season was approved by the commission early in August at their meeting in Richland. No special permits are required for the statewide September goose hunt, other than a hunting license, and state and federal duck stamps. Shooting hours on Sept. 6 and 7 are from 6 a.m. to 7:45 p.m. in western Washington and from 5:50 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. in eastern Washington. On Sept. 8 through 12 shooting hours are from 6:10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. in western Washington and from 6 a.m. to 7:20 p.m. in eastern Washington.

COMMISSION SETS EARLIER LONGER WATERFOWL HUNTING SEASONS: *(from WDFW Webpage)* The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission on August 9 set earlier and longer than usual waterfowl hunting seasons, among other action, at their meeting in Richland. Statewide duck hunting will open Saturday, Oct. 4, 1997, a week before the traditional second-Saturday-of-October hunting opener. The season will run through Saturday, Jan. 17, 1998, making it two weeks longer than last year's in western Washington and one week longer than last year's in eastern Washington. Goose hunting will open *(except for the early hunt mentioned above)* Oct. 11, 1997 and spans Jan. 18, 1998 in most of western Washington (through Jan. 4 in Island, Skagit, and Snohomish counties) and in all of eastern Washington; as usual, hunting is open only on select days of the week during that season in southwestern and eastern management areas. The westside season is a week longer than last year's to address agricultural damage situations; the eastside season is the same length as last year's. Duck hunters will be allowed to take up to two hen mallards and three pintails in their daily bag limit of seven ducks. Last year only one hen mallard and two pintails were allowed among the daily limit of seven ducks. Federal guidelines for season length and species bag limits on waterfowl (which are migratory between states) allowed for the expansions because North American duck production is at record levels due to more water in breeding areas. "The good news from this Pacific Flyway information is not just for waterfowl hunters," said Commission chair Lisa Pelly, "but also for anyone who loves to watch these migratory birds this fall. I encourage viewers to get out and enjoy them, too." The Commission also set a special statewide youth duck/coot hunting day on Sept. 27, and an eastern Washington youth upland game bird hunt on Sept. 27-28. The hunts are open only to hunters under 15 years of age if accompanied by a non- hunting adult of at least 18. By Commission approval, the non-toxic shot requirement for waterfowl hunting now also includes tungsten-iron shot. All waterfowl hunting season and rule details, including the southwest's dusky Canada goose quotas and a special late, westside damage-control hunt for Advanced Hunter Education program graduates, will be available in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) migratory bird hunting pamphlet as soon as it is printed and distributed to hunting license vendors and WDFW offices early in September. In other action the Commission: Classified the Oregon spotted frog as a state endangered species because it is now found in only ten percent of its western Washington range; downlisted the Aleutian Canada goose from endangered to threatened status because recovery efforts have increased its numbers in Washington; downlisted the gray whale from endangered to sensitive status because years of protection have returned its abundance to historic levels; and dropped from any listing consideration the Olive Ridley sea turtle because its range does not include Washington; Adopted a lake and stream rehabilitation policy that gives the WDFW director authority to determine waters that need treatment and subsequently needed sportfishing rule changes, all in compliance with state and federal laws and with public involvement in the process; Established game reserves at Fir Island Farm, Debay's Sloughs, and Hayton Farm in Skagit County to protect wintering Wrangle Island lesser snow geese and trumpeter swans, and on the public land (Bureau of Land Management ownership) at Coffeepot Lake in Lincoln County to protect lesser Canada geese; Set 1997-2000 trapping seasons and rules on an emergency basis to allow this fall's trapping to get underway, but with the intent to re-consider them in December to allow more public input on proposals to require use of padded foot-hold.

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
Paid
Pasco, WA
Permit No. 200

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Richland Rod & Gun Club
P.O. Box 337
Richland, WA 99352-0337



M McNARY REFUGE WORK PARTY: Approximately 30 hunters showed up at the McNary Refuge headquarters on Saturday Sept. 20 to work on the duck and goose blind sites and get them ready for opening day of the waterfowl season on Oct. 4. Seven of the 30 volunteers were from the RR&GC. They were Scott and Mike Estes, John Pfeiffer, Bill Lambert, John Cummings, Tom Logan and Ben Holten.

WASHINGTON, OREGON & IDAHO GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT INTERNET WEB PAGES: The fish & game departments of Washington, Oregon and Idaho have web pages on the Internet. If you have Internet access you can log on to the web pages and gather a lot of information about the hunting and fishing in each of these states. You can view the hunting and fishing regulations, find out what the license fees cost etc. The addresses for the three states are: <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw> for Washington, <http://www.dfw.state.or.us> for Oregon and <http://www.id.us/fishgame/fishgame.html> for Idaho. If you have an E-mail address that you can be contacted at, the Club would like to include it in the membership data base. Please send your name and your E-mail address to emanthos@aol.com.



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

P. O. BOX 337
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON
99352

I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY DEFEND FROM WASTE THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY; ITS AIR, SOILS AND MINERALS; ITS FORESTS, WATERS, AND WILDLIFE. I WILL HELP EDUCATE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO BE RESPONSIBLE CARETAKERS OF THE RESOURCES OF AMERICA.

OCTOBER, 1997

Volume 52, No. 10

1997 Officers

Paul Logman, Pres. (946-5596)
Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Dennis Spore, V Pres. (627-0589)
Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday October 7, 1997, 7:00 PM - FRANKLIN COUNTY PUD AUDITORIUM IN PASCO
BOARD MEETING - Tuesday October 21, 1997, 7:00 PM - IT CORP., 1045 JADWIN, RICHLAND
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - October 23, 1997, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

The October General Meeting will be held at the Franklin County PUD Auditorium at 1411 W. Clark in Pasco. The Annual Hunting Forecast will be presented by Department of Fish and Wildlife representatives who will discuss the prospects for regions 1, 2 and 3. This will be your chance to learn where to hunt this fall. Changes in hunting regulations will also probably be discussed. Don't forget, the meeting will be in Pasco at the Franklin County PUD auditorium at 7:00 PM. Come early and get a good seat.

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING REPORT: Club president Paul Logman opened the meeting and made several announcements:

- Paul urged the membership to submit the "Interest Questionnaire" in the September bulletin as soon as possible so that the members interests can be entered into a database and the membership can then be informed when information is obtained by the Club that is of interest to them.
- Paul also discussed the seriousness of Initiative 676, the so called "Handgun Safety Act". The purpose of the initiative is not handgun safety but is, in reality, gun registration, confiscation and limiting a citizens right to self defense. The initiative is actually against gun safety. The membership, at the meeting, voted to send a \$100 donation to the Washington Citizens Against Regulatory Excess (WeCare) to help defeat the initiative. The membership also voted that the Club sign and support the "RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO INITIATIVE 676".
- Club member Rocky Ross asked for volunteers to help in a project at the Windmill Ranch late in September or early in October. A sign up list was circulated.
- Club member Bill Lambert asked for volunteers to help prepare the duck and goose trails and blind sites at the McNary Wildlife Refuge on Saturday morning September 20. A sign up list for this project was circulated.
- The first speakers of the meeting were three of the four youth who attended the Conservation camp at Orcas Island this summer: Jessica Derrick, Jordan Case and Andrea Manthos. All three stated that they enjoyed the camp very much and named the various activities that they participated in. All three stated that they are looking forward to participating in next years camp.
- Ron Knapp and Steve Baird, the main speakers, described their experiences obtaining, training and hunting the hawks that they brought to the meeting. Ron brought a Goshawk and Steve had a Harris hawk, both birds were beautiful/majestic and very well behaved. The Goshawk is the larger of the two hawks. Ron explained that since they hunt with hawks they are

not falconers, but are called “*asturiners*”. People who hunt with hawks or falcons are required to obtain both a state and federal license. The birds living quarters are inspected by the state or another delegated authority to ensure that they are kept in humane quarters. Feeding of the birds is rather expensive since they are fed pen raised quail; cost of feeding the Goshawk is about \$700 per year. Both hawks can hunt upland game birds and rabbits. The Goshawk, since it is a larger bird, can hunt jackrabbits more effectively than the Harris hawk. A dog(s) is usually used to locate or flush the game, when the game is located the hawk takes over. It was a very informative and interesting presentation. I know that I learned a lot and really enjoyed the presentation. We really appreciate that Ron and Steve took the time to come and describe their style of hunting.

- Winner of the *Bait Shuttle* raffle prize was Bill Lambert. Other raffle prizes were jars of trout bait or eggs. Those winners were Dick Biggerstaff, Mike Estes, Lyle Gilk, Charlie Morbeck and Bill Lambert. Some of the winners won more than one jar and they gave their bait(s) to Jordan Case, one of the Conservation Camp participants.

INITIATIVE 676, “THE HANDGUN SAFETY ACT”: Initiative 676 will be on the ballot this November, **VOTE NO!!** WeCare, the Washington Citizens Against Regulatory Excess, is leading the fight against I-676. There are many reasons why you should vote against the initiative, some of them are:

- **Police are against I-676** Opposition to I-676 by WeCare is supported by the Washington State Law Enforcement Firearms Instructor Association, the Law Enforcement Alliance of America, the President of the Washington State Sheriffs Association, Spokane Chief of Police Terry Mangan and numerous other members of the Law Enforcement community.
- **I-676 will cost the taxpayers** I-676 creates a massive bureaucracy of licensing and registration. I-676 calls for massive spending, including even an advertising campaign to promote the law, and we the taxpayers will pay for it.
- **I-676 will not make a difference** I-676 will not prevent reckless action with guns, just like driver’s licenses do not prevent reckless actions with cars. Personal responsibility, not government regulation, is the only way to improve firearm safety.
- **I-676 goes against gun safety** I-676 advocates the use of trigger locks on loaded weapons, something firearms manufacturers and safety instructors warn against. I-676 will also prevent anyone not licensed from learning handgun safety by preventing anyone from giving them a handgun.
- **The handgun safety initiative is a lie** I-676 is being promoted as a handgun Safety Initiative. But this gun control initiative is about gun registration, confiscation and limiting our rights of self defense. The only thing I-676 says about handgun safety is how much it should cost.

Here's what Initiative 676 will do to Washington's citizens, both law-abiding handgun owners and non-gun owners: Cost lives through promotion of the unsafe practice of using trigger locks with loaded guns, a practice trigger lock manufacturers warn: **"CAUTION: Do not used with loaded gun!"**

No "grand fathering" means anyone who owns, possesses or controls a handgun (includes spouses and other adult family members) must be trained, tested and licensed... and re-licensed every five years.

Stalking victims who can currently obtain a waiver to immediately acquire a handgun for protection must walt for training, testing and licensing under 1-676.

Liability assumed by Washington taxpayers will cost the taxpayers millions every year in lawsuits because the state Department of Licensing (DoL) assumes responsibility for "safety course" content & certification.

Certified firearm safety instructors, who stand to profit if 1-676 passes, overwhelmingly oppose the initiative.

Predestined to fail: more than one million people will be required to be trained, tested and licensed in the first year 1-676 takes effect, an impossible goal, thus making "instant criminals" of hundreds of thousands of your neighbors, friends, family members and perhaps yourself.

Prohibit teaching your spouse or your children handgun safety unless they possess a handgun safety license. No matter what your view of mandatory training and licensing of handgun owners, I-676 is a badly written initiative which will clearly do far more harm than good.

Register everyone in Washington who owns, "possesses or controls" a handgun (sections 4. 7 and 13)

Require testing and licensing of anyone who merely "possesses or controls" a handgun (sections 4, 8 and 10)

Require a minimum 8 hour "safety course" for those who cannot pass the test (to be developed by the Dept. of Licensing) (sections 10 and 12)

Spouses must be licensed if they "control" a handgun (Section 4)

Estimated cost of an 8 hour "safety course" is \$100 (Certified Instructor estimate)

Require DoL to develop the test and course and designate issuing agencies (section 12)

Impose a \$25 "fee" to exercise a constitutional right... every five years (Sections 8 and 12)

Seizure and confiscation of all and any handguns, even if you don’t shoot or use them, from non-licensees (section 6)

Impose criminal penalties for unlicensed handgun possession (section 5)

Prohibit teaching your spouse or your children handgun safety unless they possess a handgun safety license (Sections 3. 14) **Control and report** to DoL private transfers, including temporary transfers, of handguns (section 3)

Require trigger locks be provided with ANY handgun transfer (section 3)

Create another state bureaucracy (sections 8. 10. 12 and 13)

Divert police resources away from the true criminals (section 12)

Provide immediate license information on-line to police agencies (section 13)

Exempt "official agencies" from compliance (section 14)

Immunize agencies for failing to issue a license (section 18)

The people who are pushing for passage of I-676 are heavily financed and are willing to spend a lot of money to ensure that I-676 passes. If I-676 passes, it will be the first step in eliminating private ownership of firearms in the State of Washington.

WeCare needs a lot of money to defeat the initiative. Please fill out the form below and send it with your contribution to the address on the form and help ensure that the initiative is defeated. The NRA will match your contribution, dollar for dollar.

The following is a late news release from WeCare: The WeCare participation day weekends are on October 4TH & 5TH, AND October 11TH & 12TH between 8:00 AM AND 5:00 PM at the Hole in the Wall, 7509 West Deschutes Ave. in Kennewick for directions call (509) 783-1111. Be sure to stop by and pick up YOUR YARD SIGNS, BUMPERSTICKERS, BROCHURES, BUTTONS AND A WHOLE LOT MORE !

I CARE about protecting my RIGHTS! I will stand and fight against costly and ineffective gun owner registration and confiscation schemes and wanton regulatory excess.

Enclosed is my check to defeat “The Handgun Licensing and Confiscation Act of 1997”.

☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMEX ☐ DISCOVER _____

Exp. date: _____

(signature required for credit card)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____

Employer & Occupation: _____

The law requires we request this information for contributions over \$25.00

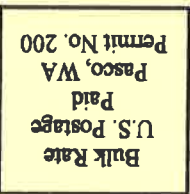
Donations to WE CARE are NOT tax deductible

Paid for by Washington Citizens Against Regulatory Excess (WE CARE)

P. O. Box 50270 • Bellevue, WA 98015-0270 • (206) 454-4915 • FAX (206) 451-3959

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - The following Hunter Education classes are scheduled in October at the RR&GC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco: (Maximum of 25 persons each) October 6, 7 & 9; & 13, 14 & 16 and at the Range on October 11. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

ATTENTION HUNTERS!!: The hunting season has started and once again the Club is looking for donations of game meat for next springs Big Game Dinner. The game meat includes waterfowl, upland birds, and clean, boneless big game roasts. (NO HAMBURGER PLEASE) A good big game roast is the sirloin tip. It is boneless, relatively tender but dry, therefore it should be cooked with moisture in a closed pan. Every hunter, whether he cuts his own meat or not, can remove this roast as follows: (see diagram below) After skinning and while the animal is hanging, place your knife just below the animals kneecap. Cut into the leg until you reach the leg bone, turn your knife and follow the leg bone until you reach the rump knuckle, then turn the knife 45° and cut out. Another good boneless roast is the round roast which can be cut in about the same manner. It is located just above the sirloin tip roast. Finally, clean the meat thoroughly, pat it dry and double wrap it; first with plastic wrap and then with waxed freezer paper. Be sure to squeeze all the air out around the meat. Seal with tape and mark package as to what it contains and with your name and hunting license number. You then take the roasts the Chucks Meats in Kennewick where the Club has a locker (I-40). Chucks has control of the key. The Club will not be able to obtain any halibut for the dinner this year. If halibut is on the menu this spring, it will have to be provided by Club fishermen. So all you halibut fishermen keep this in mind and set some fish aside for the dinner. If you have any questions call Jerry Zeidler at 545-6694. All donations will be greatly appreciated the night of the Big Game Dinner. Good Hunting and Fishing!!



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Richland Rod & Gun Club
P.O. Box 337
Richland, WA 99352-0337

is an automated licensing system which would replace paper licenses with permanent cards.

YAKIMA, KITTITAS COUNTIES GOOD FALL TROUT FISHING OPPORTUNITIES: A WDFW news release. Trout anglers will be able to fish this fall for rainbow and brown trout in various lakes and ponds throughout Yakima and Kittitas counties according to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Personnel from WDFW's Naches Hatchery will stock 20,000 rainbow and 12,000 brown trout in various waterways from mid- to late October, according to fisheries manager Keith Wolf. Although the fish will be smaller than the trout stocked last spring, they should provide good fishing opportunities during the fall and early winter. And some of the fish will remain to provide a jump start for next spring's trout fishery. "Most of these fish will be in the seven- to eight-inch range," Wolf said. "So this is a real good opportunity to take a youngster fishing during a sunny weekend this fall." The Yakima County ponds and lakes to be stocked include: North Elton Pond; Clear Lake; I-82 Ponds Nos. 3, 4 and 6; Myron Lake; Mud Lake; Rotary Lake; Tims Pond; Wenas Lake; and Wide Hollow Creek. Kittitas County lakes and ponds include Fio Rito Lake, North; Fio Rito Lake, South; Gladmar Pond; Lower Hanson Pond; Upper Hanson Pond-Upper; Mattoon Lake; and McCabe Pond.

BLUE MOUNTAIN ELK CALF MORTALITY: (Excerpted from the September issue of *The Big Horn* newsletter of the Inland Washington Wildlife Council.) Five additional elk calves died in August leaving 24 radios still on elk. No deaths occurred among the seven 1996 calves still on the air. Breakdown of the 1997 calf deaths is as follows: 11 mountain lion kills, 2 suspected black bear kills, 2 suspected coyote kills, 5 deaths undetermined and 1 death probably starvation-caused by abandonment. The survival rate through the end of August is 53.3%.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to new members Stephanie J. Montgomery and Chuck R. Johnson from Richland.



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

P. O. BOX 337
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON
99352

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NOVEMBER, 1997
Volume 52, No. 11

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Dennis Spore, V Pres. (627-0589)
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MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday November 4, 1997, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library
BOARD MEETING - Tuesday November 18, 1997, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library, Small Conference Room
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - November 20, 1997, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

**DON'T FORGET!! VOTE ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 4
AND VOTE NO ON I-676**

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Speaker at the Tuesday November 4 General Meeting will be David Burns from *OUTDOOR SERVICES INC.* who will talk about hunting Saiga Antelope and Persian Ibex in Kazakhstan. He may also discuss hunting wolves with eagles. The meeting is at 7:00PM at the Richland Public Library. The raffle prize for the evening will be a 0.177 air rifle (a Tech Force 38 Model B3-1 manufactured in China). It is a well built single shot rifle that needs to be pumped only one time to achieve maximum velocity. Cost of the rifle is about \$60.00. 1998 Remington calendars with the Club logo will be available for \$3.00 at the meeting, they make a very good Christmas gift for your hunting buddies. Don't forget to vote before you come to the meeting

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING REPORT: Club president Paul Logman brought a number of "NO on 676" bumper stickers, window stickers and other literature that were made available to those present. Paul again stressed the importance of defeating I-676 at the November 4 General Election, he urged all members to vote at the election and vote against I-676. New 1998 Club calendars were available at the meeting for \$3.00, identical calendars with a Remington logo are usually sold for \$9.99. The calendars will also be available at the next two meetings or until they are all sold out. The speakers of the evening were introduced by Club vice president Dennis Spore. Pat Ballard, Mark Quinn and Roger McKeel WDFW biologists from regions 1, 2 and 3 each discussed the hunting prospects in their regions. Forecast highlights were:

- Upland bird numbers in SE Washington should be up except for chukar will be down because of yellow star thistle infestations. Quail numbers appear to be up significantly.
- In the Blue Mountains the numbers of legal bucks will be down because of mountain lion predation. Elk numbers will also be down for various reasons. Hunters with branched bull tags should do well however. The numbers of black bears and cougars are high in the Blues and if you are deer or elk hunting and are interested in obtaining a cougar or bear it might be a good idea to purchase a cougar or bear tag along with you deer or elk tag.
- Deer numbers in the Okanagan are down, the lowest ever because of last winters severe weather. Eighty five percent

of the fawns were lost because of the weather.

- Mark Quinn described the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) in Washington State and the involvement of the WDFW in the program.
- Numbers of elk in the Yakima Game Range should be up, numbers in the Coluckum are down some from last year. It was also announced during the meeting that the old railroad bed and right of way on the north side of the Snake River has been posted as a state park and that loaded firearms and unleashed dogs are not allowed on state parks and that you will be liable for a citation(s) if you are caught. Winner of the raffle prize, a \$50 gift certificate to the Hole In The Wall was Chuck Johnson who joined the Club that night.

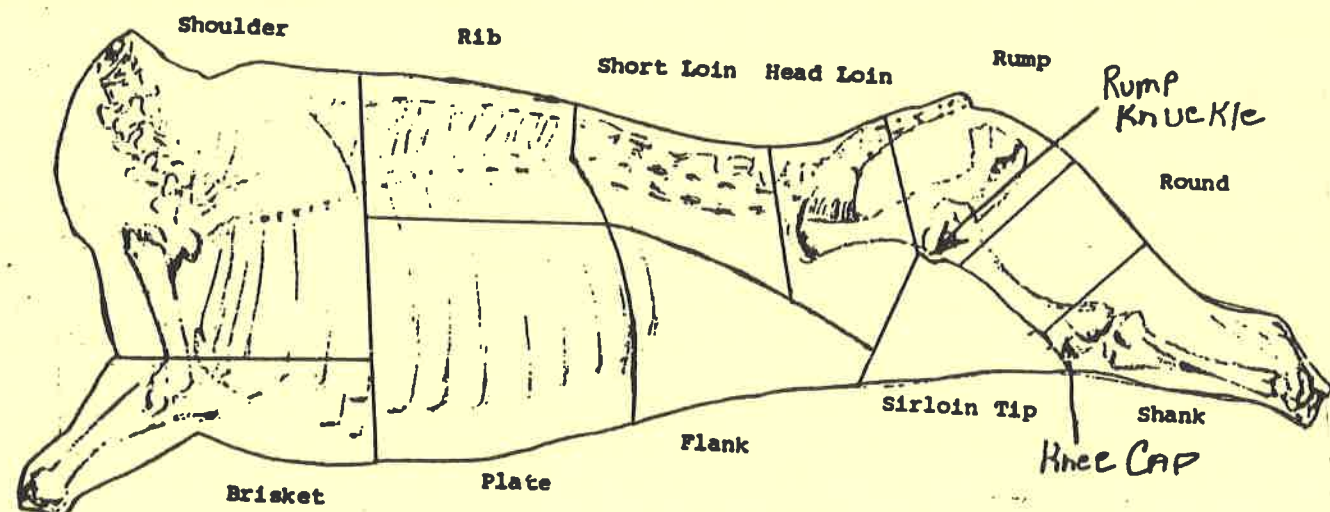
IN MEMORIAM:

The Club was deeply saddened by the death of former Club member Jim Bach. Jim passed away on October 5 of this year after a long bout with illness. Jim joined the Club in 1975 and served as president in 1983. He also served on the Board for several years. He was very active in the Club and participated in the big game dinners and salmon barbecues. Jim was a machinist and owned a machine shop until he was forced to retire because of his illness. He was a big game hunter and loved to hunt in the Blue Mountains where he owned some property with a cabin on it. Besides hunting he loved to fish, horseback ride and fly. He also belonged to the Appaloosa Horse Club, Back County Horsemen, Columbia Basin Flycasters and was a founder of the Rattlesnake Ridgeriders. Jim was a sportsman, a gentleman and an a good friend; he will be greatly missed by the Club and all his friends. Our deepest sympathies go to his family.

ELECTRIC TROLLING MOTOR SPECIAL: Do you need an electric trolling motor? Special promotion discount prices are available on Motor Guide trolling motors direct from manufacturer. Call John Cummings at 627-4112 for details.

ATTENTION HUNTERS!!: The hunting season has started and once again the Club is looking for donations of game meat for next springs Big Game Dinner that will be held on MARCH 28. The game meat includes waterfowl, upland birds, and clean, boneless big game roasts. (NO HAMBURGER PLEASE) A good big game roast is the sirloin tip. It is boneless, relatively tender but dry, therefore it should be cooked with moisture in a closed pan. Every hunter, whether he cuts his own meat or not, can remove this roast as follows: (see diagram below) After skinning and while the animal is hanging, place your knife just below the animals kneecap. Cut into the leg until you reach the leg bone, turn your knife and follow the leg bone until you reach the rump knuckle, then turn the knife 45° and cut out. Another good boneless roast is the round roast which can be cut in about the same manner. It is located just above the sirloin tip roast. Finally, clean the meat thoroughly, pat it dry and double wrap it; first with plastic wrap and then with waxed freezer paper. Be sure to squeeze all the air out around the meat. Seal with tape and mark package as to what it contains and with your name and hunting license number. You then take the roasts to Chucks Meats in Kennewick where the Club has a locker (I-40). Chucks has control of the key. The Club will not be able to obtain any halibut for the dinner this year. If halibut is on the menu this spring, it will have to be provided by Club fishermen. So all you halibut fishermen keep this in mind and set some fish aside for the dinner. If you have any questions call Jerry Zeitler at 545-6694. All donations will be greatly appreciated the night of the Big Game Dinner. Good Hunting and Fishing!!

- It is not too early to start soliciting door prizes for the Big Game Dinner. The prizes do not need to be limited to hunting and fishing related items. Other items such as gift certificates to restaurants and other businesses are also very suitable. Last year the prizes included gift certificates from restaurants, for dog food & dog care items, books, camping items, auto items, hair care items and even from a micro brewery.



INITIATIVE 676: One last reminder to vote NO on Initiative 676, the so called 'Handgun Safety Act'. Advise your friends and neighbors to vote NO also. The Club's Board of Trustees voted at their last meeting to donate an additional \$200 to 'WE CARE', Washington Citizens Against Regulatory Excess, to help defeat the Initiative.

MEMBERSHIP DUES REMINDER: If the address label on this Newsletter is highlighted in yellow, your membership has expired. Please renew your membership at the next General Meeting or call Jack Pickard at 582-5397.

RR&GC OFFICERS AND BOARD ELECTION DELAYED UNTIL DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING: Because so many members were not available this month because they were hunting. The Election for Club officers and the Board of Trustees will be held at the December General meeting instead of November.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- The Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show and Lunker Lake will again take place at the TRAC on January 16, 17 and 18, 1998 (Friday thru Sunday). Set aside some time to work at the kids fishing pond.
- The Club Big Game Dinner will take place on Saturday evening March 28, 1998.

WDFW NEWS RELEASE CONCERNING STEELHEAD RELEASE IN SCOOTNEY RESERVOIR:

October 8, 1997 FRANKLIN COUNTY -- An estimated 200 adult hatchery steelhead *were* planted the week of *October 6* in Scootney Reservoir to give area anglers an extra fishing opportunity, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) announced. WDFW fisheries Manager Keith Wolf said anglers will not need a steelhead license or punch card to fish for them. Only a valid Washington game fish license will be required. The daily limit will be two steelhead as part of the five trout currently allowed. Trout 20 inches or longer are considered steelhead. The fish to be planted were raised at the department's Ringold Hatchery, and are part of the Skamania summer steelhead stock. To meet wild steelhead conservation needs, the fish are not being planted in the Columbia River or other waterways where they could interact with wild steelhead. The reservoir is landlocked. "What we're trying to do is provide anglers with as many diverse opportunities as we can while working to meet our conservation goals for wild fish stocks," Wolf said. Anglers are reminded that steelhead and trout fishing on the Columbia River from the Highway 395 bridge at Pasco upstream to Chief Joseph Dam is closed in response to the National Marine Fisheries Service's listing of Upper Columbia steelhead as endangered. All tributaries within this reach also are closed for steelhead (trout over 20 inches), but trout fishing remains open with the following change: selective fishery regulations are extended through Dec. 31 on all tributaries that are subject to those regulations and open after Oct. 31.

HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - The following Hunter Education classes are scheduled in November at the RR&GC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco: (Maximum of 25 persons each) November 3, 5, 10, 12 & 17 from 6 PM to 8:30 PM and at the Range on November 15 from 8 AM to 2 PM. Howard Gardner will be the Chief Instructor. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE CHANGES: A WDFW news release. The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission streamlined the state's hunting and fishing licensing system. The new system is aimed at making the licensing process less complicated for recreational users and license dealers. "We have one of the most antiquated, cumbersome licensing systems in any of the 50 states," said Department of Fish and Wildlife Director Bern Shanks. "This change is desperately needed for customer service." "This long-needed change should eliminate much of the frustration people have felt. It should get more people into the field to take advantage of Washington's wonderful fish and wildlife resources," said Lisa Pelly, the commission's chair. Fishing license revisions will incorporate existing warmwater and Puget Sound salmon enhancement fees into licenses and eliminate licensing by fish species. Under the new system, resident adults and seniors will pay \$20 for freshwater licenses; \$17 for saltwater licenses; \$7 for shellfish licenses, or \$34 for a combined license including shellfish. Juveniles will be charged \$5 for a combination fishing license, with a separate \$3 charge for a shellfish license. Also offered is an optional \$25 Family Fishing Weekend license for up to six fishers, including one or two adults as well as children. Hunting license revisions replace single-species tags with a big game/small game licensing system along with options for hunting single species. Resident adults and seniors will pay \$20 to \$65 for big game hunting, depending on the targeted species. The \$65 big-game combination license will allow hunting for deer, elk, cougar and bear. A \$30 small-game combination license allows hunting for upland birds, eastern Washington pheasant and turkey, as well as falconry. A combined \$80 license allows both big-game and small-game hunting. Deer-only or elk-only tags will cost \$35. Juvenile license fees are half those charged resident adults. The new license structure will take effect in 1999. The commission action adopting the license revisions follows a series of 23 public meetings, nine dealer meetings and collection of 2,500 public survey responses to gather suggestions on simplifying the licensing system. The license simplification measures were directed by the Legislature. Part of the streamlining package still under development



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

P. O. BOX 337
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON
99352

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Richland Rod & Gun Club
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Richland, WA 99352-0337

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RAINBOW TROUT PLANTED IN YAKIMA AND KITTITAS COUNTIES: (Nov. 21 WDFW News Release)

- YAKIMA -- Don't put your fishing pole away for the year just yet. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife fisheries biologists announced today that several hundred rainbow trout brood fish have been planted in lowland lakes located throughout Yakima and Kittitas counties. "These large fish came from our Goldendale Hatchery and should spice things up for area anglers," said biologist Eric Anderson. "Some of them weigh up to 12 pounds." The fish are in addition to an estimated 20,000 rainbow trout and 12,000 brown trout planted last month in area ponds and lakes, according to Anderson.
- The lakes stocked this week with brood fish include Myron, Rotary, North Fio Rito and Mattoon. The North Elton Pond, which was recently stocked with 2,000 jumbo rainbow trout, also received some of the fish. All the lakes are open for fishing year round. North Elton Pond is open December through March. Anglers are urged to check the state's Sportfishing Rules pamphlet for complete information.

DUCK HUNTING AFFECTED BY LOW WATER LEVELS IN JOHN DAY POOL: - Low water levels in the reservoir behind John Day dam have adversely affected duck hunting, especially in areas of the Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge. Repairs are being made to the John Day dam and the reservoir water level was lowered about 3 feet below the normal level. As a consequence, many areas off the river in the refuge are now mud flats. In many places the water, if there is any, is 50-100 yards or more from the natural cover normally used by hunters as blinds. The water that is left, especially in the Paterson area is covered/filled with weeds. Wading in these areas, to set out decoys, is especially treacherous because of soft bottoms and a bottom layer/mat of weeds. It appears that this low water level will remain through the whole duck hunting season.

I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY DEFEND FROM WASTE THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY; ITS AIR, SOILS AND MINERALS; ITS FORESTS, WATERS, AND WILDLIFE. I WILL HELP EDUCATE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO BE RESPONSIBLE CARETAKERS OF THE RESOURCES OF AMERICA.

DECEMBER, 1997

Volume 52, No. 12

1997 Officers

Paul Logman, Pres. (946-5596)
Mike Estes, Treas. (582-2212)

Dennis Spore, V Pres. (627-0589)
Eddie Manthos, Sec. (586-6009)

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

GENERAL MEETING - Tuesday December 2, 1997, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library

BOARD MEETING - Tuesday December 16, 1997, 7:00 PM - Richland Public Library

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - December 23, 1997, CALL EDDIE AT 586-6009

TRI CITIES SPORTSMENS SHOW (LUNKER LAKE) AT THE TRAC - January 16, 17 & 18 1998

RR&GC BIG GAME DINNER - Saturday March 28, 1998

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The last General meeting of 1997 will be held at the Richland Public Library at 7:00 PM on Tuesday December 2. Since Christmas is approaching, the topic will be very timely. Rocky Crisp, owner of *Critters Outdoor World*, located at Broadmoor Outlet Center, will be the speaker for the December program. He will bring and show the latest equipment and gadgets available through his outlet for hunters and fishermen. He will also bring some gift registration cards so that if you see an item(s), that tickles your fancy, you can list them on the card and your kids, spouse, girl friend or anyone else that is looking for a gift for you will know what you *really* want. There have been many changes in equipment, clothing etc. and this will be your chance to see them, first hand, instead of thumbing through catalogues and looking at pictures.

- Elections for 1998 Club officers and board members will be held at the meeting. The list of candidates is shown elsewhere in this bulletin.
- There will also be some 1998 RR&GC calendars available for \$3.00 at the meeting. They make ideal gifts for your hunting and fishing buddies.

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING REPORT: Club president Paul Logman opened the meeting. Howard Gardner gave a short report on the hunt that he, Larry Martin and Larry's father in law made in the Pasayten Wilderness. Howard also described the 3 week hunt that he and his brother made in Montana and Wyoming.

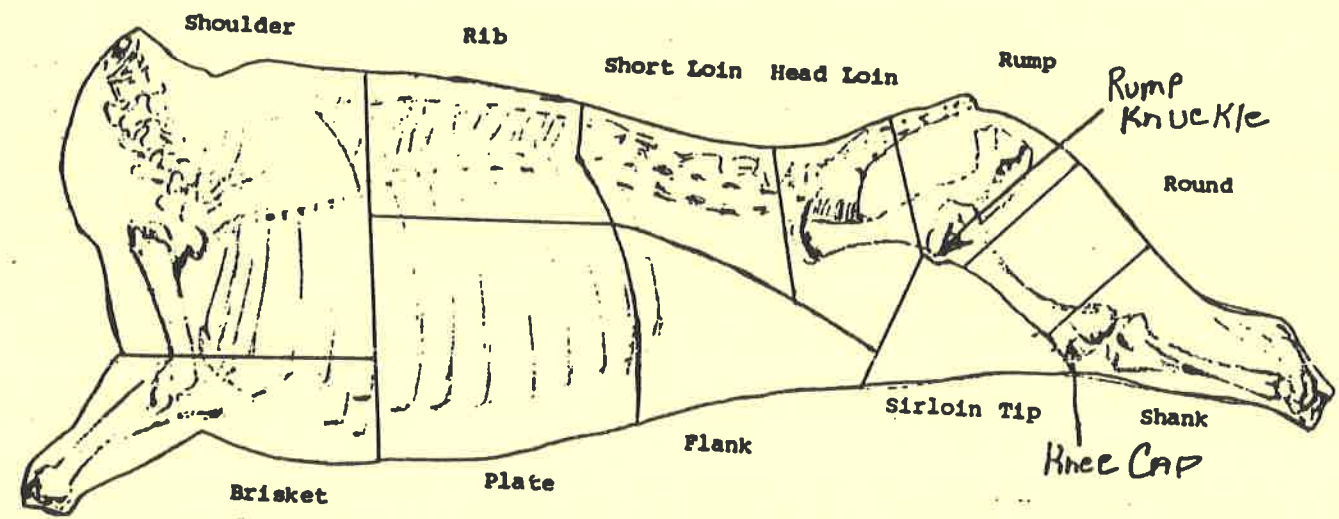
- Dennis Spore introduced speaker David Burns of *OUTDOOR SERVICES INC.* from Irrigon, Oregon. David is a cabinet maker who loves to hunt. He also enjoys planning/organizing hunts for himself and clients. David had always wanted to hunt for asian ibex and Saiga antelope so he planned a hunt for himself and a friend in Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan is a former Russian republic that gained its independence after the USSR broke up. The country was used by the Russia for training their armed forces and is struggling to survive after the Russians left. The hunt for Saiga Antelope took place in the steppes. The hunt was much different than they expected since a motorcycle was used to drive the antelope to the hunters. Hunting for the asian Ibex, the largest of 5 species, took place next to the Chinese border. The ibex were stalked in the extremely mountainous terrain and each hunter bagged an animal of trophy proportions. David's weapon was a custom, accurized 0.264 magnum rifle. David used both slides and video to show the hunts, the people, their homes and buildings and the country. The hunters visited with the

locals and even slept and ate in their homes. They did not bring any meat back with them but left it for the locals to eat. David also described how the locals train and use golden eagles to hunt for wolves. They kill about 200 wolves a year with the eagles. David specializes in planning and organizing hunts in out of way places and for exotic species and is very good at it. He has been organizing trips all over the world for the last 8-9 years. The rates he quoted appeared to be very reasonable. The winners of last years Club Quality hunt are using his services to plan a hunt for sheep and goat in Hawaii. If you are planning a hunt, it would be worth your while to call David at (541)-922-2802 and see what he has to offer. His presentation of the Khazakistan hunts was exceptional. We are very fortunate that he took the time to come to Richland and share his experiences with us.

- Winner of the 0.177 air rifle (a Tech Force 38 Model B3-1) raffle prize was Leo Pierce. Winner of the second prize, Bushnell binoculars, was John Cummings.

ATTENTION HUNTERS!!: The hunting season is coming to a close and the Club is still looking for donations of game meat for next springs Big Game Dinner that will be held on MARCH 28. The game meat includes waterfowl, upland birds, and clean, boneless big game roasts. (NO HAMBURGER PLEASE) A good big game roast is the sirloin tip. It is boneless, relatively tender but dry, therefore it should be cooked with moisture in a closed pan. Every hunter, whether he cuts his own meat or not, can remove this roast as follows: (see diagram below) After skinning and while the animal is hanging, place your knife just below the animals kneecap. Cut into the leg until you reach the leg bone, turn your knife and follow the leg bone until you reach the rump knuckle, then turn the knife 45° and cut out. Another good boneless roast is the round roast which can be cut in about the same manner. It is located just above the sirloin tip roast. Finally, clean the meat thoroughly, pat it dry and double wrap it; first with plastic wrap and then with waxed freezer paper. Be sure to squeeze all the air out around the meat. Seal with tape and mark package as to what it contains and with your name and hunting license number. You then take the roasts to Chucks Meats in Kennewick where the Club has a locker (I-40). Chucks has control of the key. The Club will not be able to obtain any halibut for the dinner this year. If halibut is on the menu this spring, it will have to be provided by Club fishermen. So all you halibut fishermen keep this in mind and set some fish aside for the dinner. When you place meat in the locker and if you have any questions call Jerry Zeitler at 545-6694. All donations will be greatly appreciated the night of the Big Game Dinner. There also will be a special drawing for meat donors at the dinner. Good Hunting and Fishing!!

- It is not too early to start soliciting door prizes for the Big Game Dinner. The prizes do not need to be limited to hunting and fishing related items. Other items such as gift certificates to restaurants and other businesses are also very suitable. Last year the prizes included gift certificates from restaurants, for dog food & dog care items, books, camping items, auto items, hair care items and even from a micro brewery.



HUNTER EDUCATION CLASSES: - Clare Cranston - The following Hunter Education classes are scheduled in December at the RR&GC Tri-Cities Training Facility at the Port of Pasco: (Maximum of 25 persons each) December 1, 3, 8, 10 & 15 from 6 PM to 8:30 PM and at the Range on December 13 from 8 AM to 2 PM. Howard Gardner will be the Chief Instructor. There is a \$5 class fee for Hunter Education. Registration is through Phil's Sporting Goods, 3806 W Court in Pasco, telephone (509)547-9084.

CLUB ELECTION FOR OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS: The election for Club officers and board of trustee members will be held at the December General Meeting. The candidates are:

President: Dennis Spore **Board Members:** Antone Brooks, Clarence Corriveau, Lyle Gilk, Ben Holten, Duncan Kirk,
V. President: John Silko Paul Kison, David Koontz, Dale Landon, Ray Lloyd, Jon Manthos, Richard
Secretary: Eddie Manthos Mathews, Jack Pickard, Rocky Ross, Carl Stull, Mike Thompson, & Duane
Treasurer: Mike Estes Woolum

Past President: Paul Logman. **Volunteers:** Howard Gardner, Jack Hampton, John Pfeiffer, Dale Schielke, Harold Heacock, Ev Weakley, Clare Cranston, Dave Myers & Larry Martin
Nominations for officers or board members will also be accepted from the floor.

EMERGENCY ARCHERY AREA RESTRICTIONS: (A Nov. 20 WDFW news release)
The Late Archery Deer Season in Bow Areas 806 (Rattlesnake) and 807 (Ahtanum) in eastern Washington has been changed from Mule deer and Blacktail, 3-Pt min or antlerless to Mule deer and Blacktail, 3-Pt min only. The season is Nov 26-Dec 8, 1997.

FISHING FOR WHITEFISH TO OPEN DEC. 1 ON WENATCHEE, METHOW RIVERS: (A WDFW news release)
A special fishing season for mountain whitefish on the Wenatchee and Methow rivers in north central Washington will open Dec. 1 and run through March 26 with gear restrictions. The fishing season is an exception to the recent closure by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) of all fishing in the tributaries of the upper Columbia River to protect endangered steelhead trout. The Wenatchee River will be open to whitefish fishing from the mouth upstream to Highway 2 Bridge at Leavenworth; the Methow River will be open from the mouth upstream to the mouth of the Chewuch (Chewack) River. Gear restrictions are designed for whitefish only -- one single-pointed hook, size #10 or smaller (under 1/4 inch maximum gap), with bait allowed. WDFW officials will monitor the fishery to document participation, harvest and the number of steelhead encounters. The whitefish season is allowed because accidental hooking of steelhead will be minimal due to the season's timing, limited area and gear restrictions. The majority of adult steelhead spend the winter in Columbia River reservoirs at the same time there are low flows and low water temperatures in the Wenatchee and Methow rivers. Juvenile steelhead (and resident trout) are not liable to be taken during the whitefish season since they spend winters concealed in the bottom gravel. Fishing for trout and steelhead remains closed on the mainstem upper Columbia River and all tributaries.

STEEL HEAD PLANTED IN RAILROAD POND - FRANKLIN COUNTY: -- About 40 adult hatchery steelhead have been planted in Railroad Pond here to give area anglers an extra fishing opportunity, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) reported. Anglers do not need a steelhead license or punch card to fish for these steelhead, according to regional fisheries manager Keith Wolf. Only a valid Washington game fish license is required. The daily limit is two steelhead. Trout 20 inches or longer are considered steelhead. Railroad Pond is located northeast of the Highway 17 viaduct in Equatzel Coulee near the city of Mesa. The planted fish were raised at the department's Ringold Hatchery. To meet wild steelhead conservation needs, the fish were not placed in the Columbia River, where they might interact with wild steelhead. "What we're trying to do is provide local anglers with as many diverse fishing opportunities as we can while working to meet our conservation goals for wild fish stocks," Wolf said. Last month, WDFW personnel planted about 350 Ringold Hatchery steelhead in the Scootney Reservoir 13 miles southeast of Othello on Highway 17. Anglers are asked to report their success-or lack of success-by calling the Ringold hatchery at (509)269-4327 and leaving a message.

CONGRESS AGREES TO RESTORE HATCHERY FUNDING: (A WDFW news Release)
Three lower Columbia River fish hatcheries will remain open after Congress budget negotiators agreed to restore funding. The agreement reached by negotiators for the House and Senate restores \$1.1 million for operation of the Grays River, Elochoman and Fallert Creek hatcheries. U.S. Sen. Slade Gorton and other members of the state's congressional delegation intervened to restore the hatchery funding. In September the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife announced that the three hatcheries would be closed because of proposed federal funding cuts for Mitchell Act hatcheries. The Mitchell Act was passed by Congress in 1938 and amended in 1946. The Klickitat Hatchery near Goldendale, built in 1949, was the first Washington state fish hatchery constructed with Mitchell Act funds. "We are thankful that Congress provided funding that will allow us to move forward not only for continued future fisheries but also to rebuild natural spawning fish populations in Southwest Washington," said WDFW Director Bern Shanks. Fishers off the Washington coast, at the mouth of the Columbia and along its tributaries will benefit from the hatchery funding, Shanks added. The three affected hatcheries annually produce almost 1.8 million coho, 7.7 million fall chinook and 500,000 spring chinook.